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JUNE
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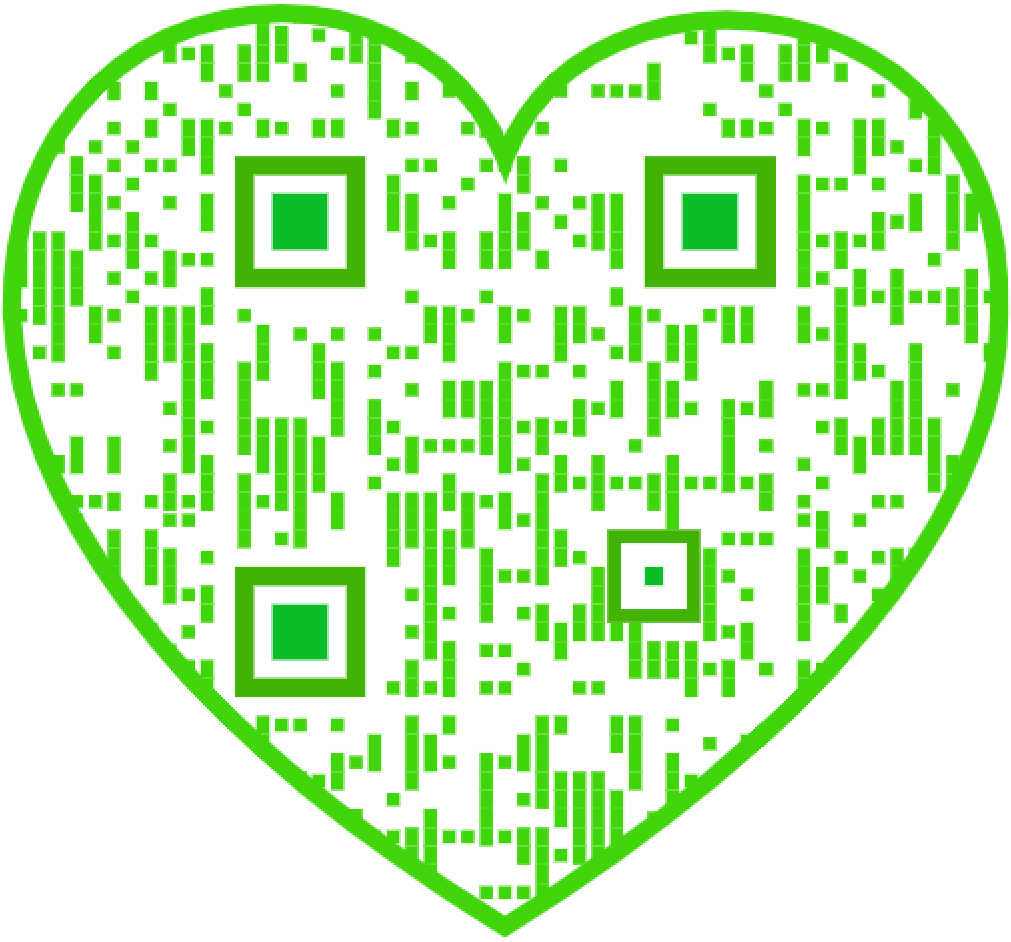
IN THIS ISSUE
- LIGHT-FILLED KITCHENS
- GLORIOUS OUTDOOR SPACES
- VERSATILE LIVING ROOMS
- LUXURIOUS BATHROOMS

Time for a style update

SMART DESIGNER TIPS TO FRESHEN UP YOUR INTERIORS

Renovated bungalow | Converted barn | Characterful new build | Period townhouse | Highland lodge



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25 BEAUTIFUL
HOMES

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June 2025

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Welcome

This month, we're celebrating the start of summer by showcasing some stunning homes that are made even better by their outside spaces – including an Edwardian property in Shropshire with a carefully tended country garden (p56), a New England-style house looking out across the Isle of Wight coast (p20) and an idyllic retreat in the heart of the Highlands (p78). We also take a look at a London penthouse with the most enviable roof terrace (p88) and we love Kerry Harris' easy-maintenance, 'summer ready' garden in her city abode (p111). And if you're looking for furniture and accessories for alfresco living, we're offering 25% off at Cox & Cox (p55). Happy shopping.

FIONA MACE, EDITOR

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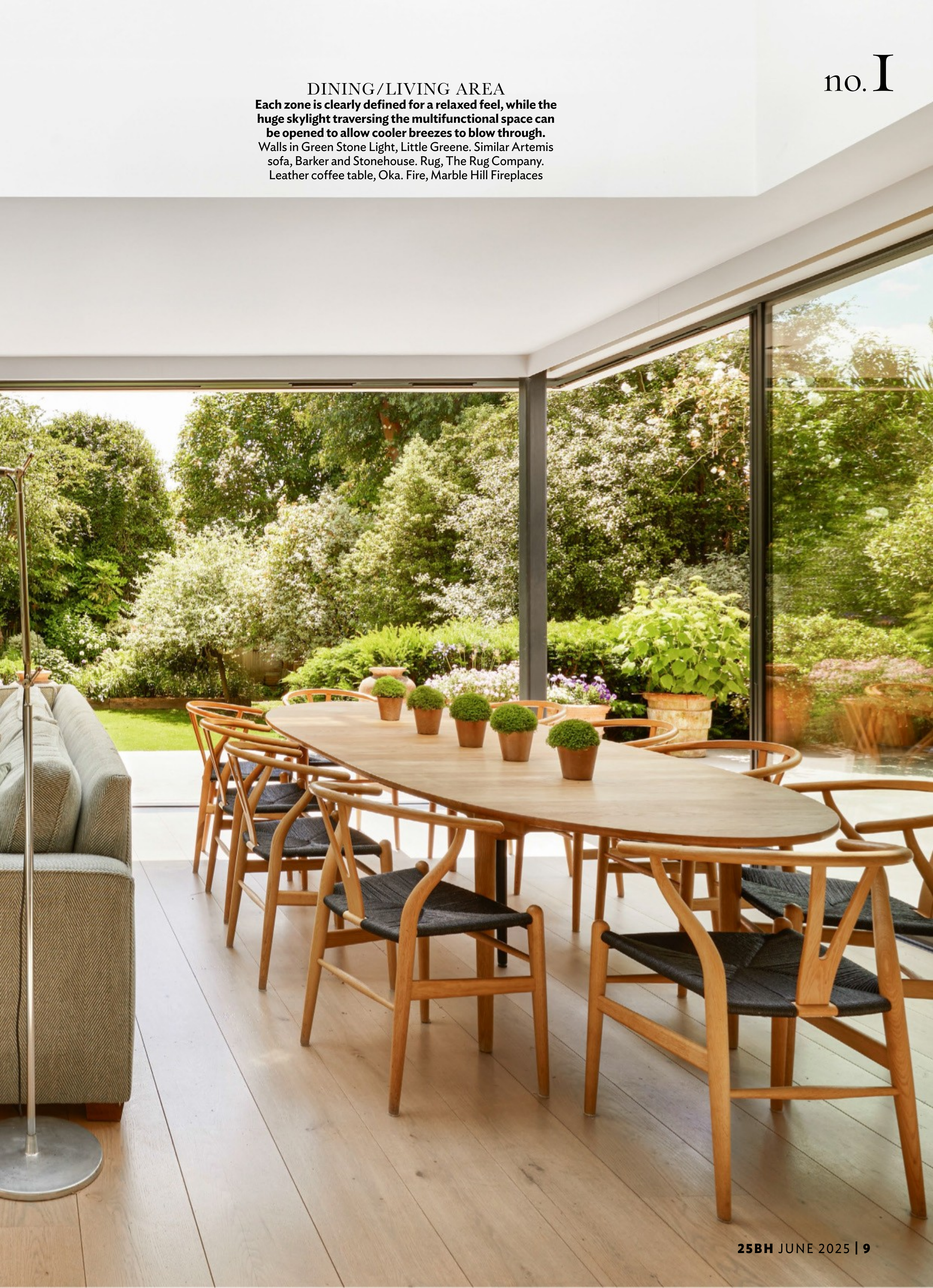
Recycle

| HOUSE OF THE MONTH |

SUNSHINE *state*

With full-height patio doors that slide right back to let the sun in, Catherine Banner's home is bright and beautiful

WORDS LOU O'BRYAN **PHOTOGRAPHY** DARREN CHUNG



DINING/LIVING AREA

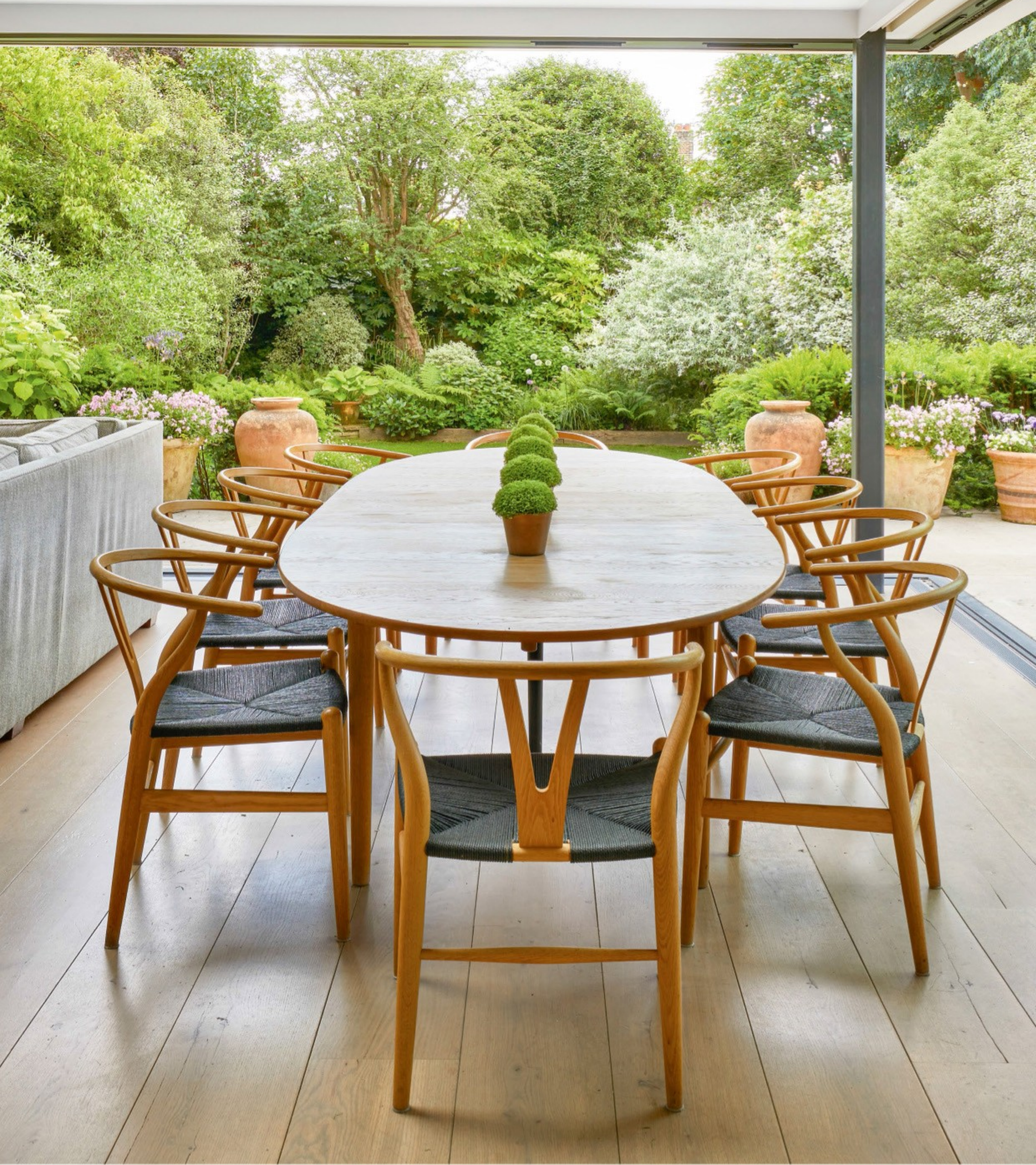
Each zone is clearly defined for a relaxed feel, while the huge skylight traversing the multifunctional space can be opened to allow cooler breezes to blow through. Walls in Green Stone Light, Little Greene. Similar Artemis sofa, Barker and Stonehouse. Rug, The Rug Company. Leather coffee table, Oka. Fire, Marble Hill Fireplaces

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY Semi-detached Bauhaus property, built in the 1930s

ROOMS Sitting room, study, kitchen-diner/living area, utility room, pantry, cloakroom, five bedrooms, three bathrooms

LOCATION London



DINING AREA
Sliding back the glass doors and opening the entire corner onto the paved terrace brings the outside in and doubles the entertaining space. Table and chairs, Carl Hansen & Søn. Find similar flooring, Havwoods

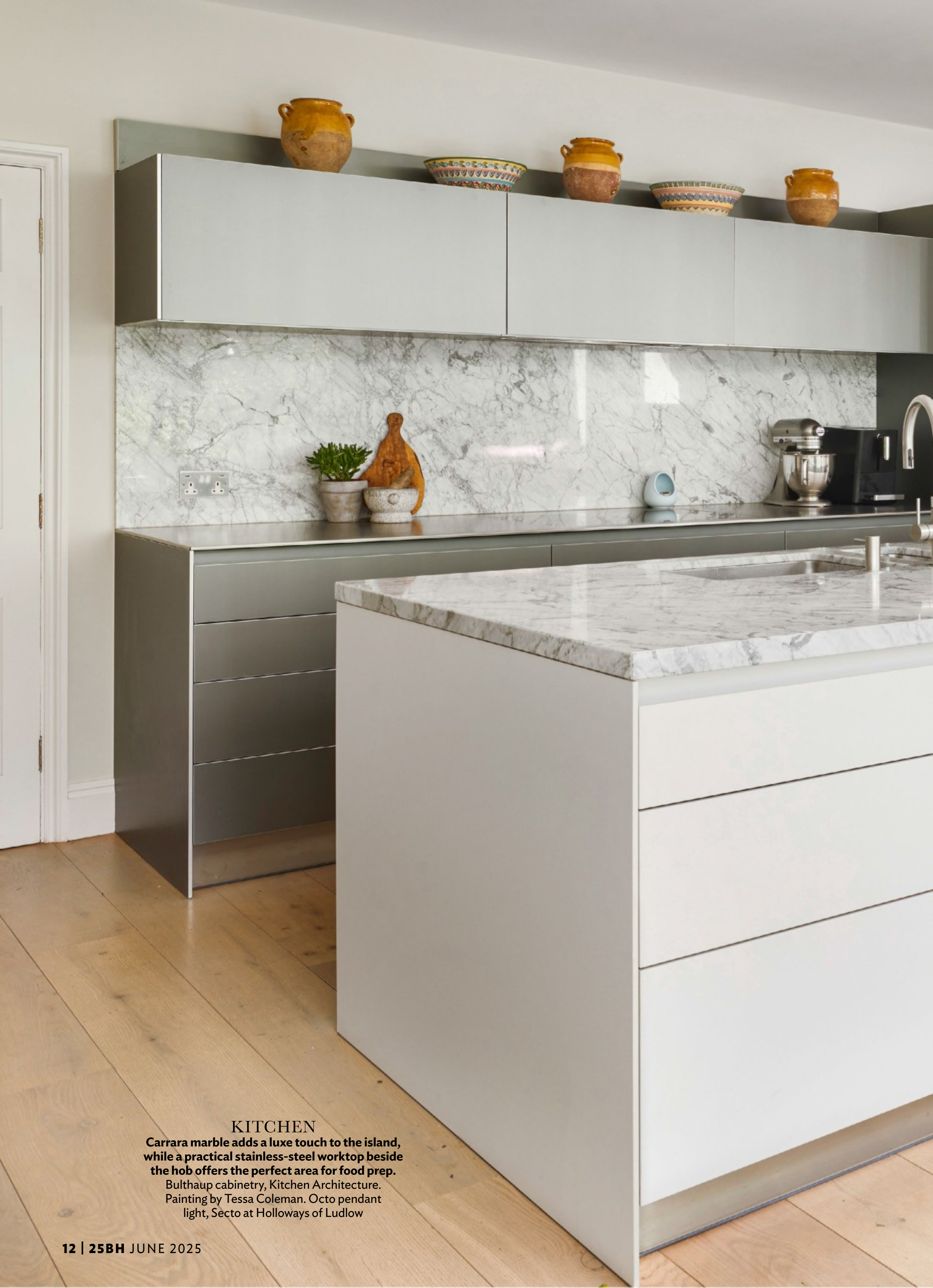
The hustle and bustle of Central London might only be 10 minutes on the train, but for Catherine Banner and her husband, Rod, the Big Smoke feels a million miles away when sat in their generously glazed kitchen extension that opens onto a lush, verdant garden. 'We were careful to plant hardy evergreens like pittosporum, ferns and grasses so it feels like a real city oasis all year round,' says Catherine.

At a time when elegant Victorian townhouses were all the renovation rage, Catherine and Rod's decision to take on this flat-roofed Bauhaus property raised eyebrows, however, its wide, double frontage, large garden and off-street parking made it an ideal family home. 'We bought it from the original owner 31 years ago, and despite having many original features, it needed a lot of updating to make it a functional family home for us and our two small children at the time,' recalls Catherine. 'The kitchen was tiny, yet the hallway was huge. The proportions were all wrong. And to say the decor was dated is an understatement.' Needless to say, we immediately set about reworking the layout and modernising every room.'

Rising over three floors, the receptions rooms and guest bedrooms enjoy generous proportions boasting many 1930s details, like fireplaces, parquet flooring and panelling, while at the top of the house, the elegant main suite is complemented by a striking rooftop terrace with wide-reaching views. Catherine's aim was to create a consistent flow of timeless and sophisticated schemes that celebrated the home's period architecture yet acknowledged her passion for eclectic finds from the family's travels. As a result, a romantic palette of soft neutrals, restful pastels and standout patterns converge in the bedrooms, while deep, rich tones warm the main living spaces inspired by statement artworks. 'I love to bring pops of colour and energy to spaces through interesting paintings, fabrics and textures, such as bedspreads from France and cushions in fabric from Sri Lanka,' she says. 'I've also worked with the orientation of the house and used cooler colours in south-facing rooms, while north-facing rooms get a darker, cosier shade.'

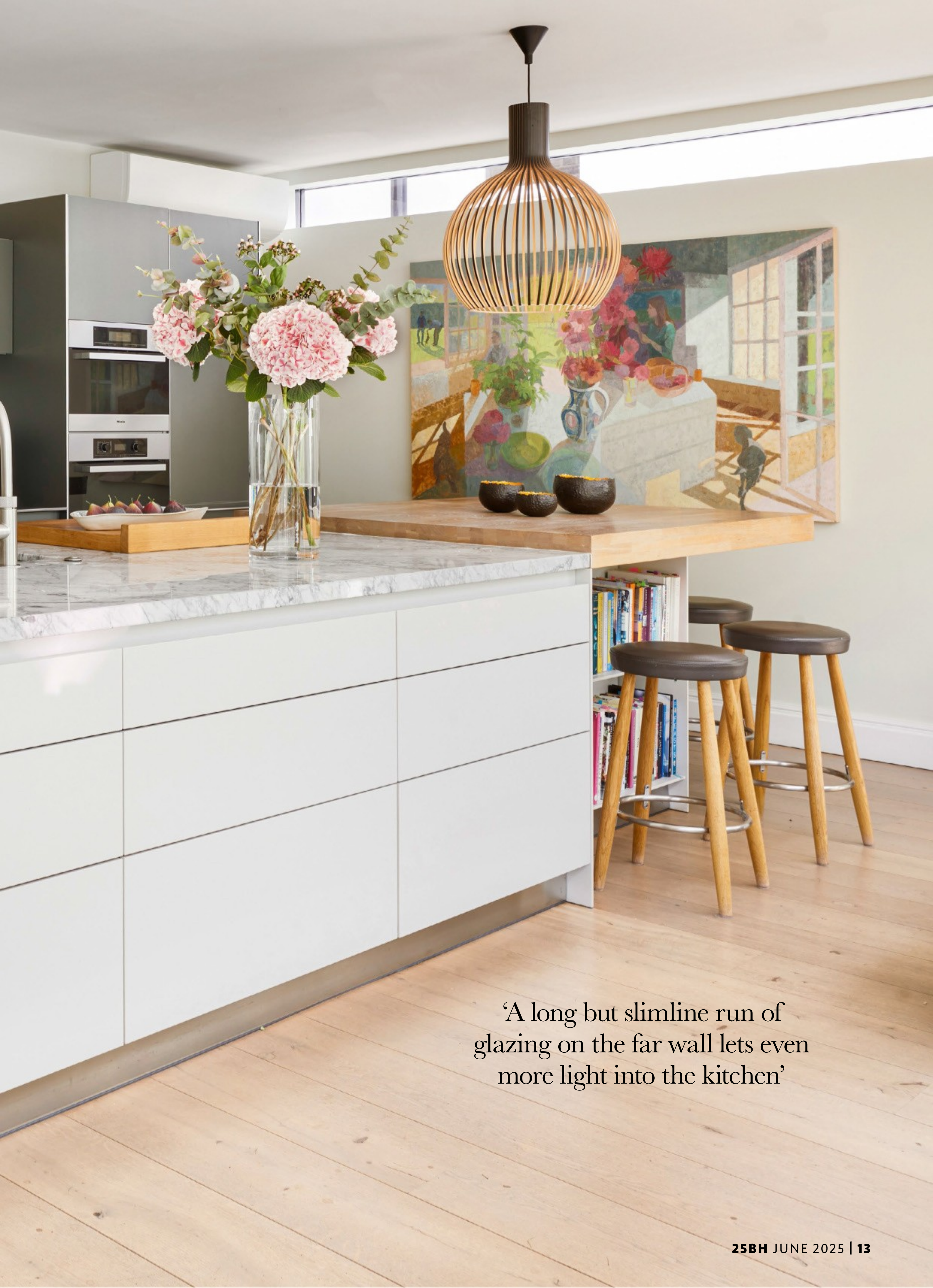
As well as updating all the windows with a more energy-efficient design to match the originals, the house was also modernised at the back with a sympathetic, but distinctly contemporary extension, creating an expansive kitchen-diner/living space. Glazed sliders open the entire corner of the room creating a seamless connection to the paved terrace, while a thoughtful furniture arrangement ensures the large multifunctional space still feels cosy and intimate. 'Orientating the L-shaped sofa towards the fireplace encourages conversation with the cook and anyone at the island. We then placed the dining table at the corner to make it feel like you're eating outside,' says Catherine, whose passion for entertaining and cooking guided her choice of worktops for the ultimate kitchen space. 'We teamed sleek handleless cabinetry with polished Carrara marble for a luxe touch, stainless steel for a pro element and warm timber at the island for a welcoming eating spot. Combine all this with the double ovens, a steamer and two dishwashers, and it really is the best-equipped kitchen I've ever used,' she laughs. 'In fact, guests say it feels like a boutique hotel when they stay here, which is such a huge compliment after all our hard work.' ㉕

Catherine's house is available as a holiday rental through stayone.com and plumguide.com

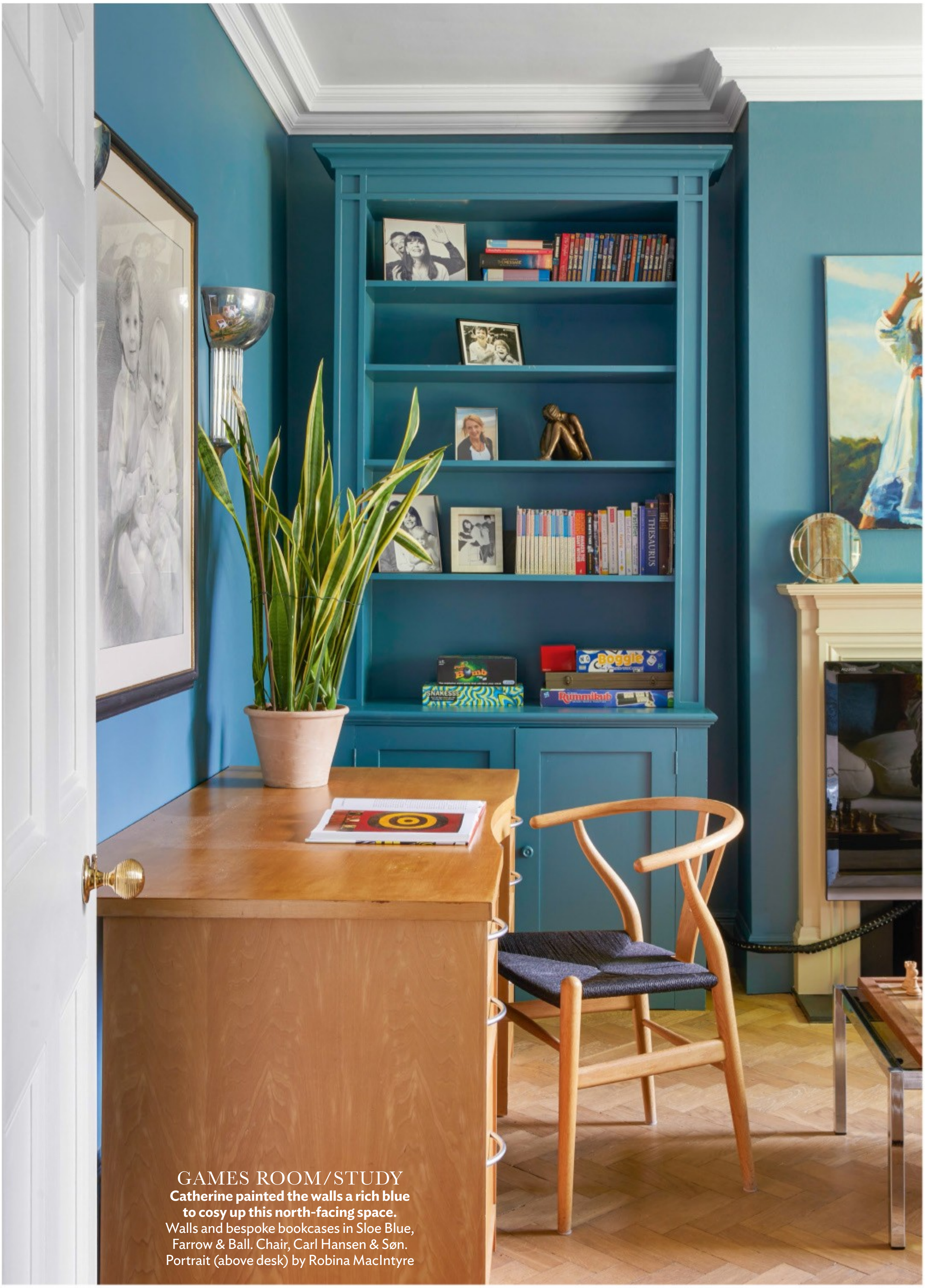


KITCHEN

Carrara marble adds a luxe touch to the island, while a practical stainless-steel worktop beside the hob offers the perfect area for food prep.
Bulthaup cabinetry, Kitchen Architecture. Painting by Tessa Coleman. Octo pendant light, Secto at Holloways of Ludlow

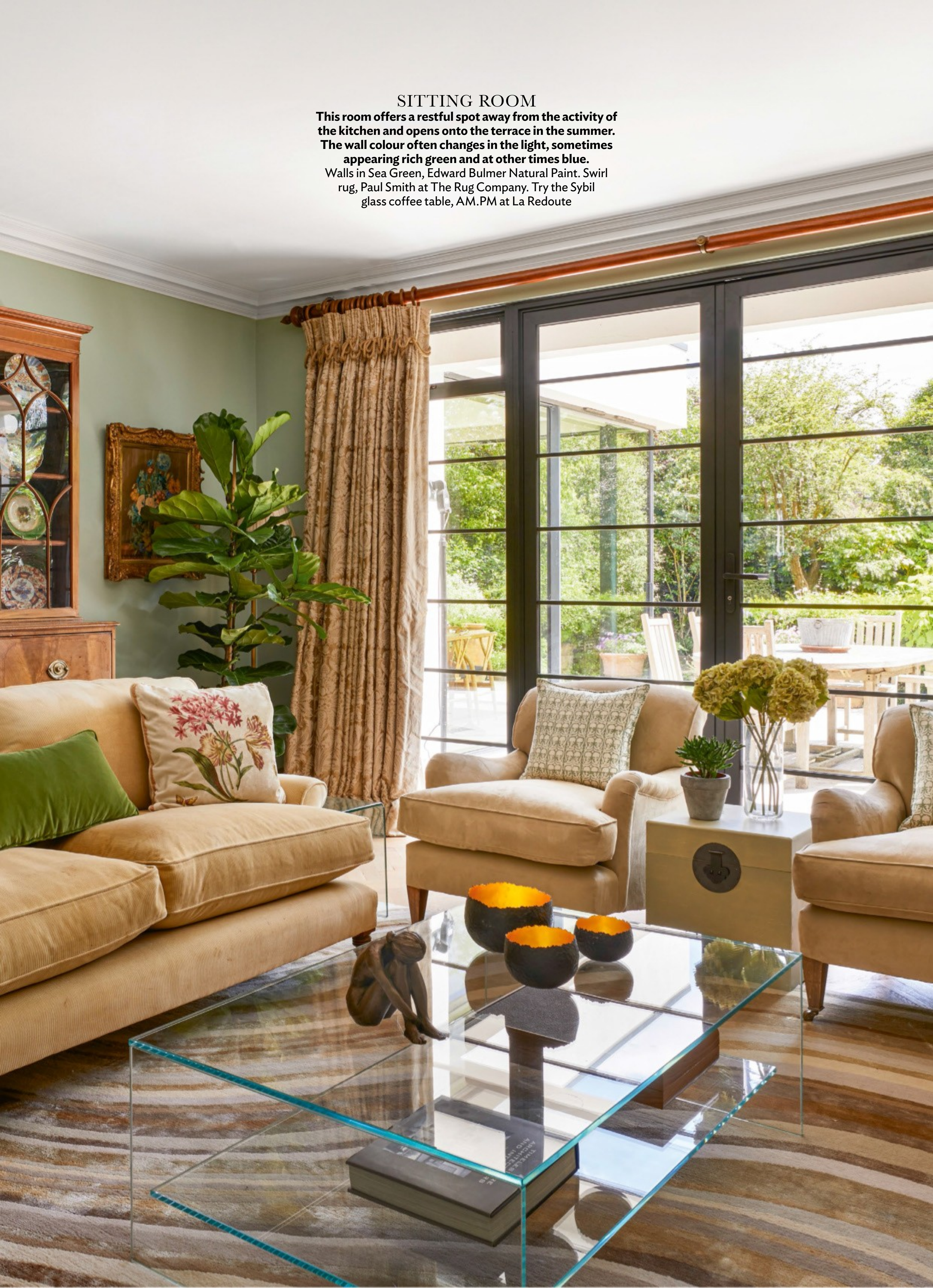


‘A long but slimline run of glazing on the far wall lets even more light into the kitchen’



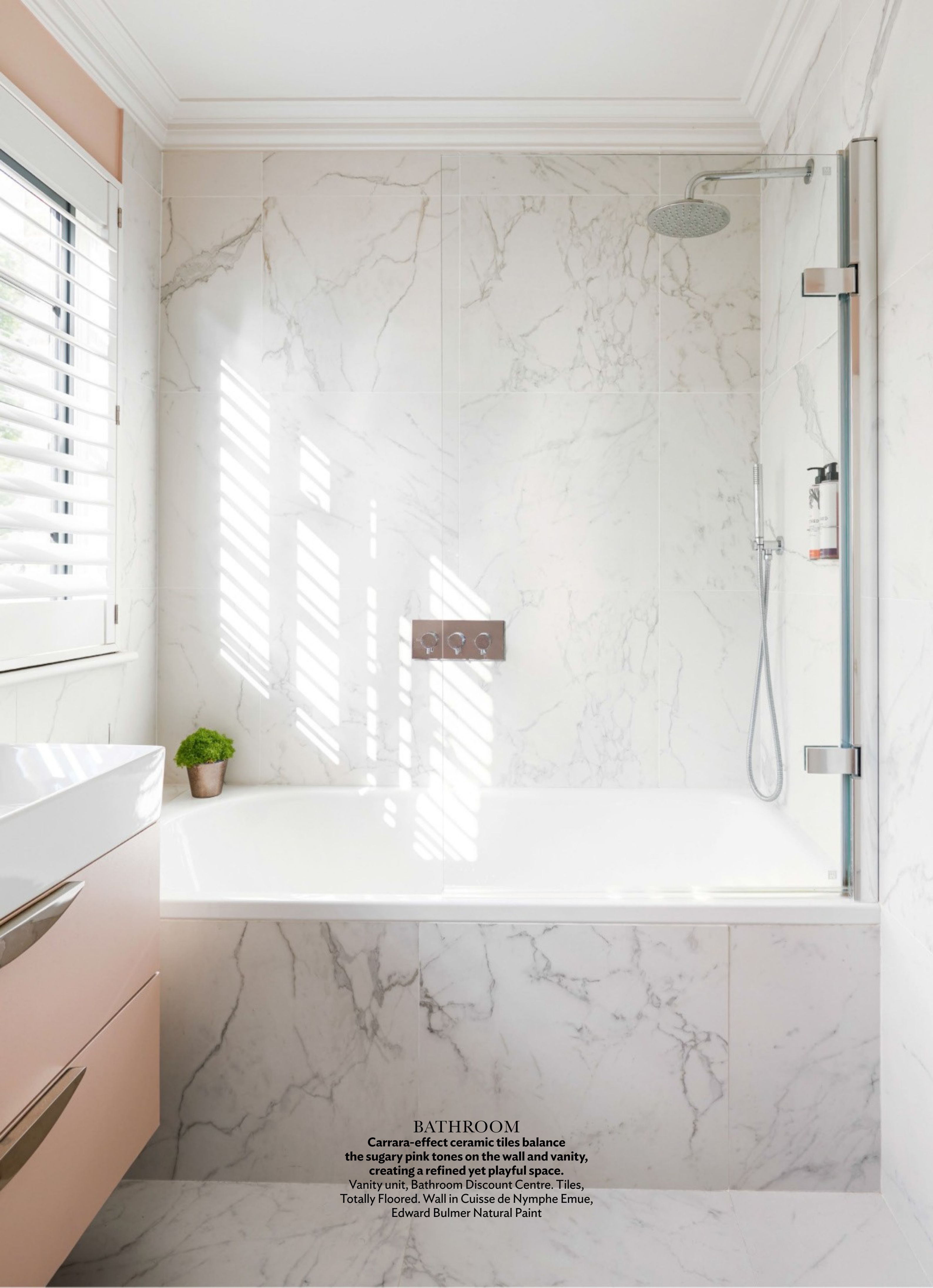
GAMES ROOM/STUDY

Catherine painted the walls a rich blue to cosy up this north-facing space. Walls and bespoke bookcases in Sloe Blue, Farrow & Ball. Chair, Carl Hansen & Søn. Portrait (above desk) by Robina MacIntyre



SITTING ROOM

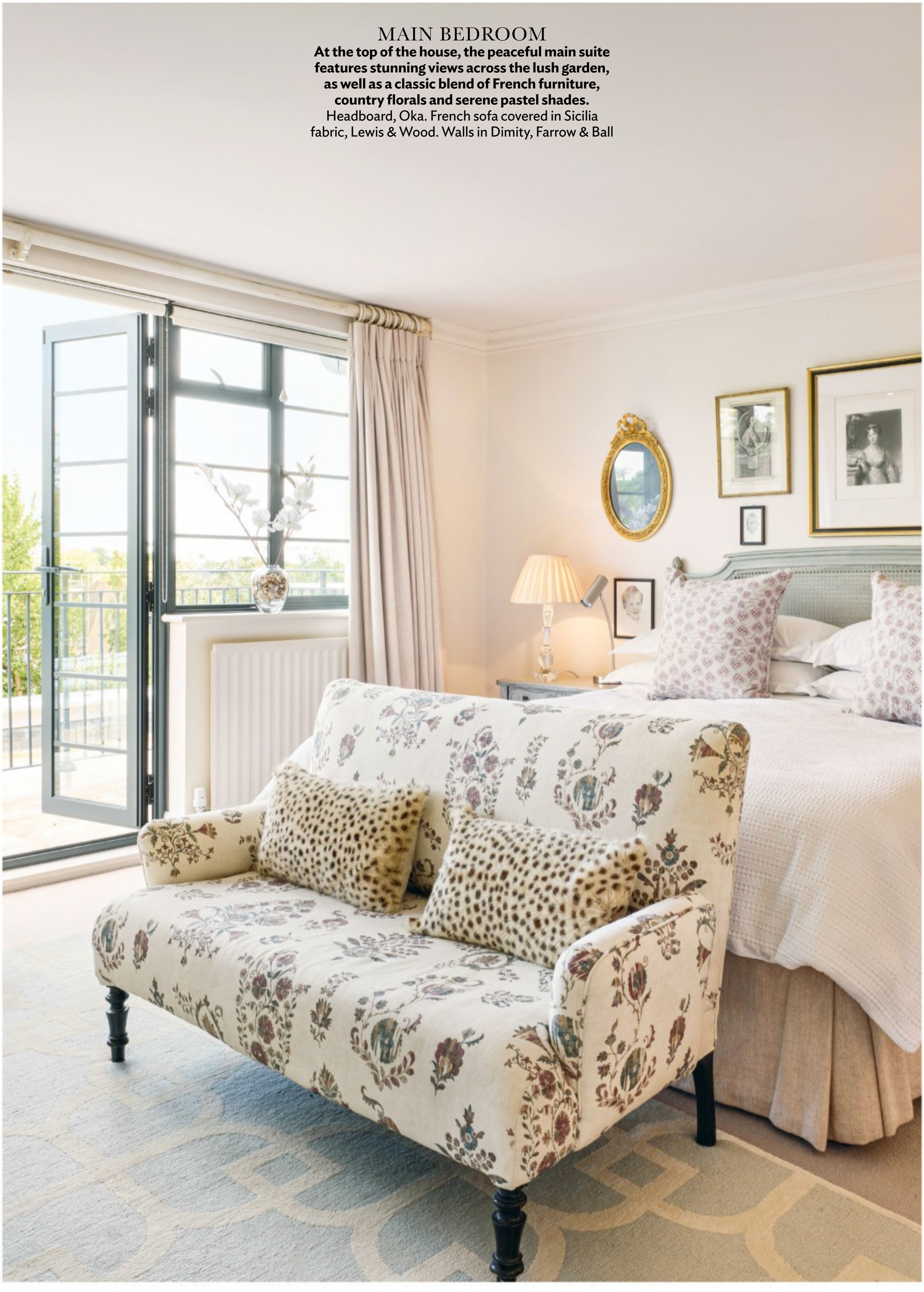
This room offers a restful spot away from the activity of the kitchen and opens onto the terrace in the summer. The wall colour often changes in the light, sometimes appearing rich green and at other times blue.
Walls in Sea Green, Edward Bulmer Natural Paint. Swirl rug, Paul Smith at The Rug Company. Try the Sybil glass coffee table, AM.PM at La Redoute



BATHROOM

Carrara-effect ceramic tiles balance the sugary pink tones on the wall and vanity, creating a refined yet playful space.

Vanity unit, Bathroom Discount Centre. Tiles, Totally Floored. Wall in Cuisse de Nymphe Emue, Edward Bulmer Natural Paint

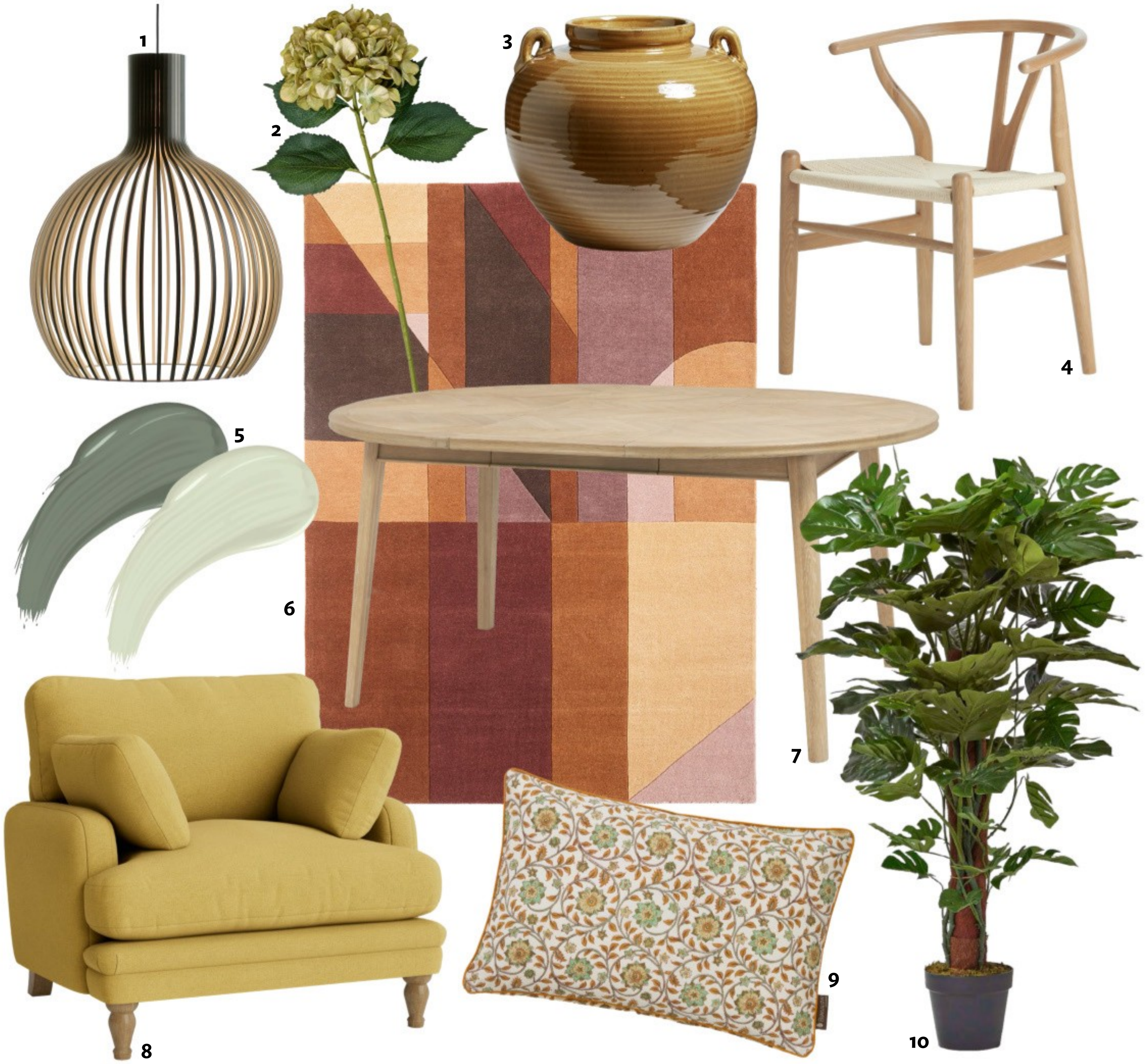


MAIN BEDROOM

At the top of the house, the peaceful main suite features stunning views across the lush garden, as well as a classic blend of French furniture, country florals and serene pastel shades. Headboard, Oka. French sofa covered in Sicilia fabric, Lewis & Wood. Walls in Dimity, Farrow & Ball

STYLE *inspiration*

Catherine's home is bright and elegant – these pieces will help create equally alluring interiors



1 Octo 4240 pendant lamp in Black laminated birch, £875, Secto Design at Skandium **2** Antique green giant hydrangea stem, £10, Cotswold Company **3** Cicero pot in Mustard, £95, Oka **4** Lars natural oak and woven fabric dining chair, £220, Oak Furnitureland **5** Pullman Green and Soft Green Chalky Emulsion, £45 for 2.5ltr each, both 1829 Vintage Collection, Craig & Rose **6** Imzi wool rug, 200x290cm, £699.99, La Redoute **7** Parquet Pie extendable dining table in Whitewashed oak, £1,195, Loaf **8** Squisharoo armchair in Lemon Posset Clever Twill, £1,295, Loaf **9** Hand block printed Roja Honey cushion, £50, Bungalow Denmark at Curated Living **10** Artificial fiddle leaf fig tree in pot, £59.99, Homescapes

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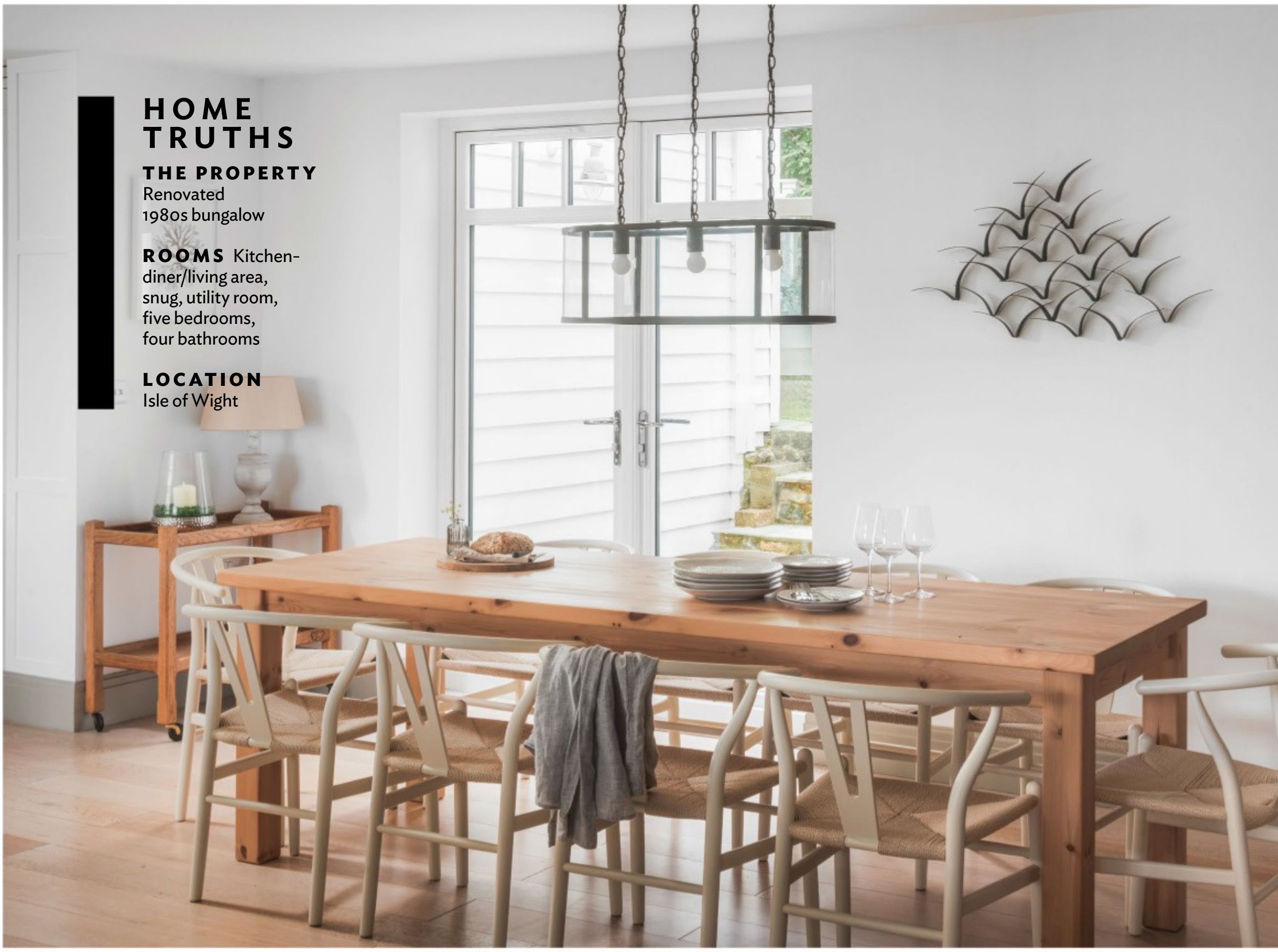
SEA change

Rosie Stanton's captivating coastal home has evolved over the years to become this dreamy New England-style retreat

WORDS RACHEL LEEDHAM | **PHOTOGRAPHY** MATTHEW HERITAGE

EXTERIOR
As well as being close to a beautiful beach, this New England-style home has its own swimming pool. Try Daals for similar grey sun loungers and an outdoor sofa

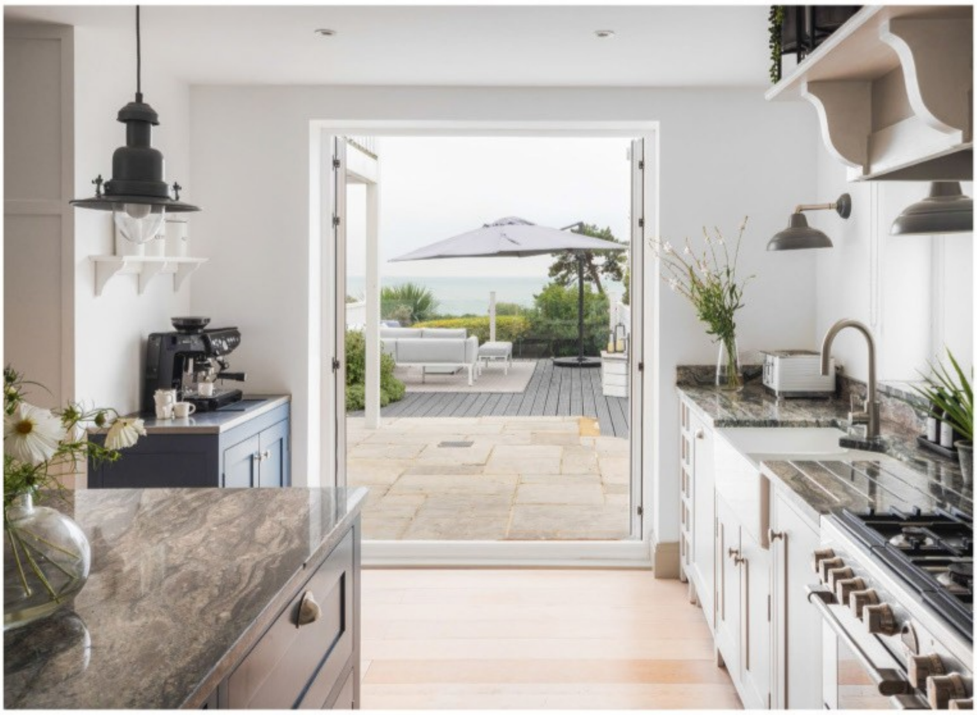


HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY
Renovated
1980s bungalow

ROOMS Kitchen-diner/living area, snug, utility room, five bedrooms, four bathrooms

LOCATION
Isle of Wight



DINING AREA
The chunky timber table is perfect for convivial meals. Solid rustic pine square leg dining table, Made In The Cellar. Jade dining chairs in Light Beige/Natural, Dusk. The large metal Trapeze pendant, Cox & Cox, is similar. Metal Coastal Birds wall art, Dunelm

KITCHEN
The pendants and wall lamps bring an industrial edge. Chilcomb cabinetry by Howdens is similar. Island in Stiffkey Blue, Farrow & Ball. Silvester bar stools, Laura James. Try the Brooklyn range of lights for this look, Industville

It was a family gathering on the Isle of Wight that led Rosie Stanton and her brother, Edward, to purchase this house in St Lawrence, just outside Ventnor. 'We used to come to the Isle of Wight when we were children because our dad was a keen yachtsman, but we'd never really visited the south of the island,' recounts Rosie. 'This area has its own microclimate and there are some wonderful beaches – the house is situated just above one of them, Steephill Cove. When we saw it, we fell in love.'

Rosie and Edward run a property company together, and the sibling duo decided to purchase the house as a holiday let. 'We also loved the idea of being able to use it for our own family gatherings,' explains Rosie, who is based in west London with her husband, Innes Willingale, one-year-old daughter, Bonnie, and cockapoo, Basil.

Other than its captivating ocean views, one of the big draws of the property was that most of the hard work had been done: the previous owners had extensively refurbished it back in 2014, transforming it from a 1980s bungalow into a New England-style, five-bedroom home complete with a swimming pool. 'It needed redecorating but we didn't make any changes to the layout. We loved the open-plan kitchen and living space as well as the separate snug, all of which open on to the terrace,' Rosie comments.

The project took longer than anticipated because Rosie quickly learnt that finding tradespeople on the island at short notice was a challenge. 'I also realised that a lot of companies

won't deliver to the Isle of Wight, which makes things complicated when you are furnishing a house from scratch,' she says. 'In the end, I had quite a few deliveries sent to a shipping company, which then arranged transportation.'

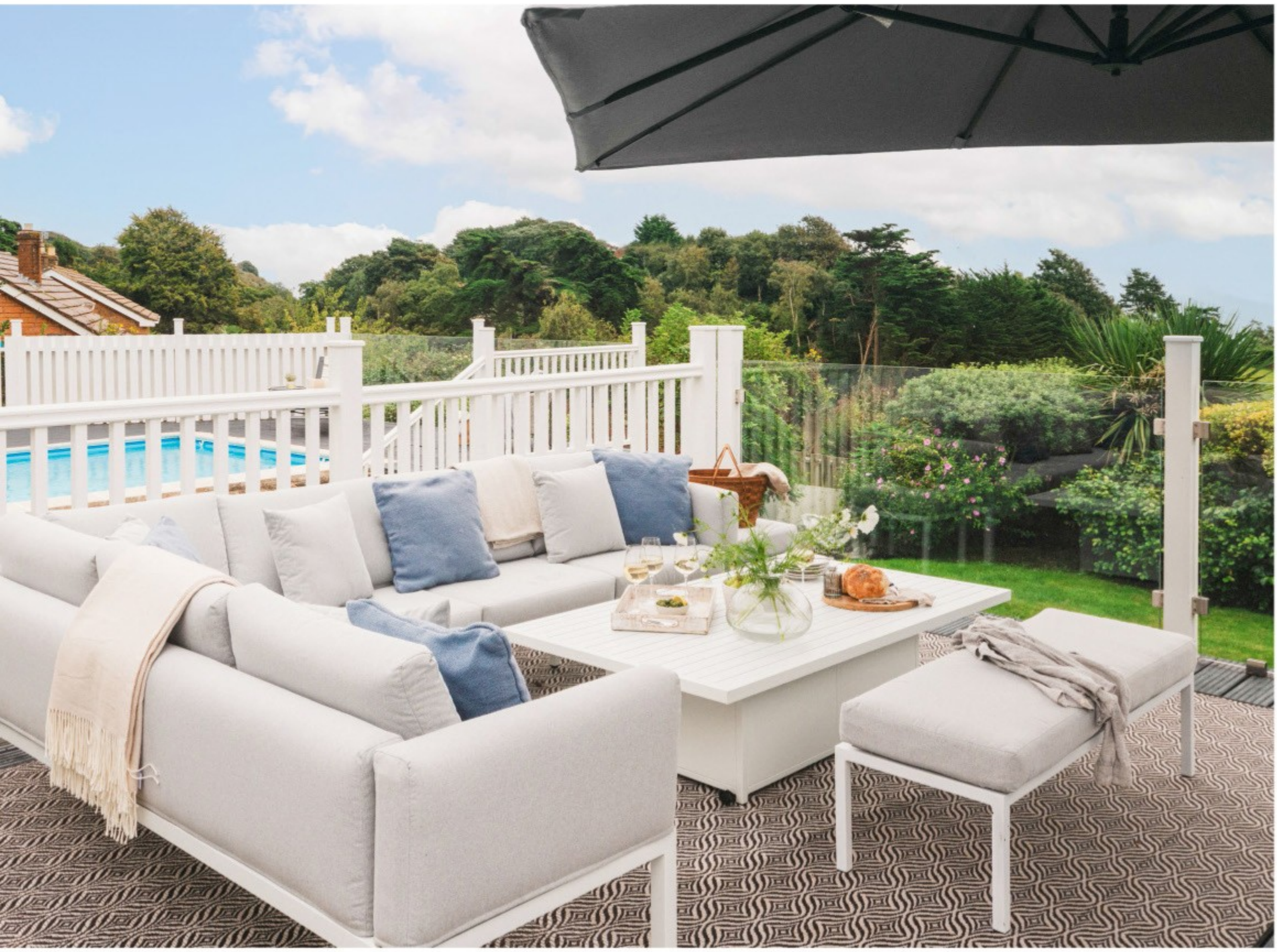
At one point last spring, Rosie, Innes and Bonnie decamped to the house so that they could be on site to oversee the works, with Innes rolling up his sleeves to help. 'To begin with, we only had an inflatable mattress and two stools,' laughs Rosie, who has always been passionate about interior design. 'It's been a hobby of mine for years and I have loved refurbishing our London home. I used quite strong, moody colours in our house but for this place, we felt it needed to be airy. We went for neutral tones mixed with blues to reflect the surroundings.'

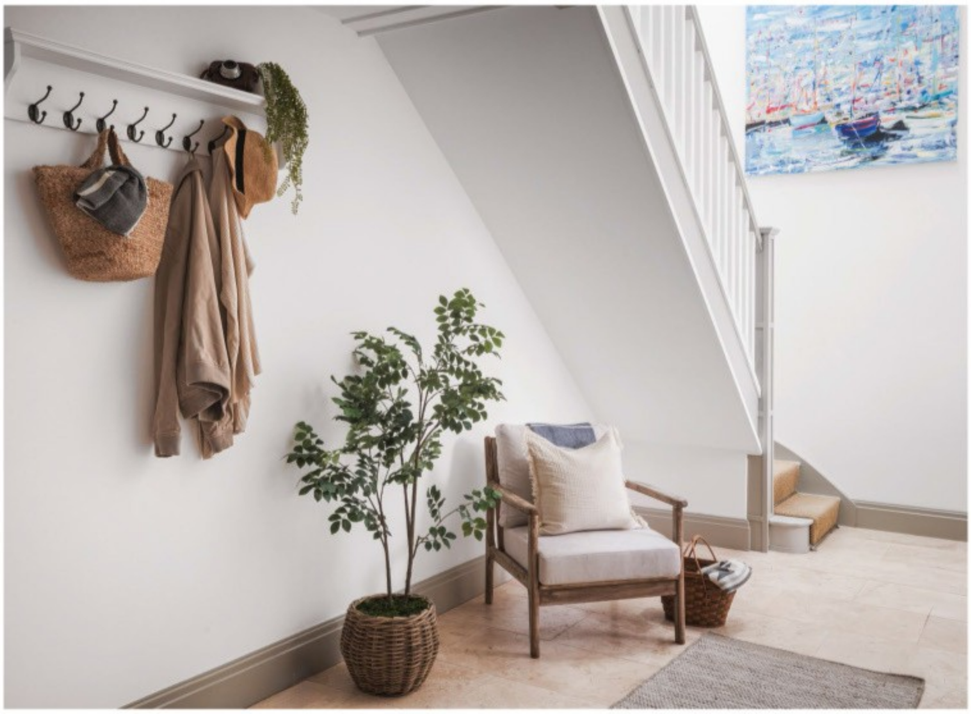
Rosie discovered local interiors companies including XV Stripes Interiors, who supplied coastal-inspired wallpapers for two of the bedrooms. 'One of the papers was bespoke colour matched to a greeny-blue shade,' says Rosie, who has introduced texture to each room with chunky rugs, tactile linens and pieces made from natural timbers or rattan.

Paintings and wall art that reflect the island's rich maritime heritage further tie the house to its setting, creating an aesthetic that is both grounded and calm. 'It feels like a little haven,' says Rosie. 'We are really looking forward to enjoying the house and discovering more of the local area.'

Marisol is available to rent through Boutique Retreats, boutique-retreats.co.uk; @isleofwightholidayhome

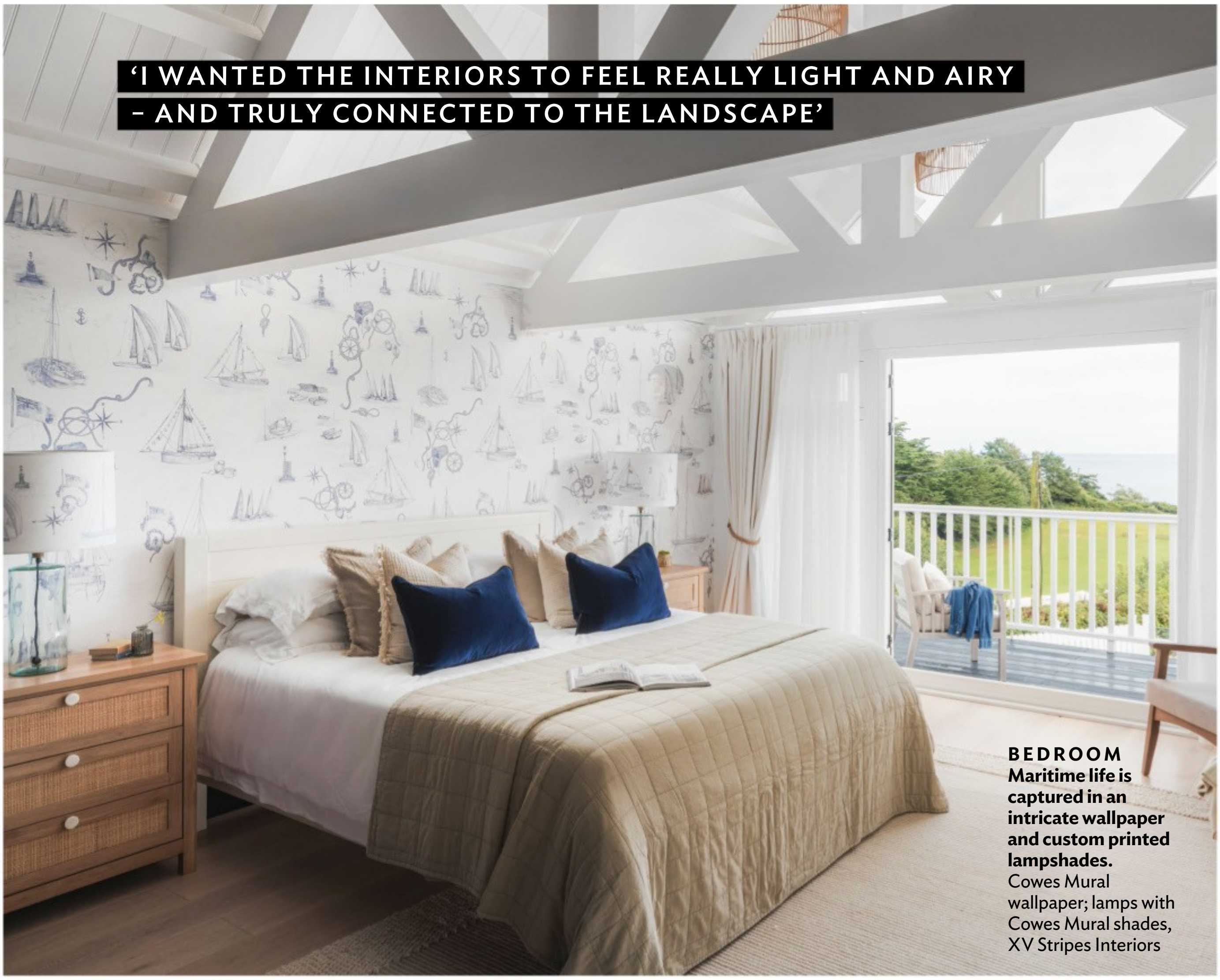
SITTING AREA
Blue and cream tones contribute to the relaxing ambience.
Hampshire sofas, Dusk. Sahar mango wood floor lamp, Nkuku. Wall art; glass coffee table, both El and Ro Interiors





GARDEN SITTING AREA
A sofa and rug create the sense of an outdoor room. Calabasus outdoor sofa; ottoman; coffee table, all Daals. Rug, Rugs.co.uk

HALLWAY
The painting reflects the island's seafaring heritage. Painting by Jacquie Turner. Richmond wall-mounted coat rack, The Range. Try Jessica natural linen armchair, Rose & Grey



‘I WANTED THE INTERIORS TO FEEL REALLY LIGHT AND AIRY – AND TRULY CONNECTED TO THE LANDSCAPE’

BEDROOM
Maritime life is captured in an intricate wallpaper and custom printed lampshades. Cowes Mural wallpaper; lamps with Cowes Mural shades, XV Stripes Interiors

MAIN BATHROOM
The bath is positioned for a breathtaking view. The nautical ladder shelves, Dunelm, are similar. Try the Gio Brown Gloss marble-effect tiles, Victorian Plumbing

BEDROOM
Quirky table lamps and heron prints add playful touches to this space. Emillius rattan pendant, Habitat. Upholstered beds, Beds ‘r’ Us. Table lamp, El and Ro Interiors. Natural raffia lampshade, Graham and Green. Set of three heron prints, Beach House Art

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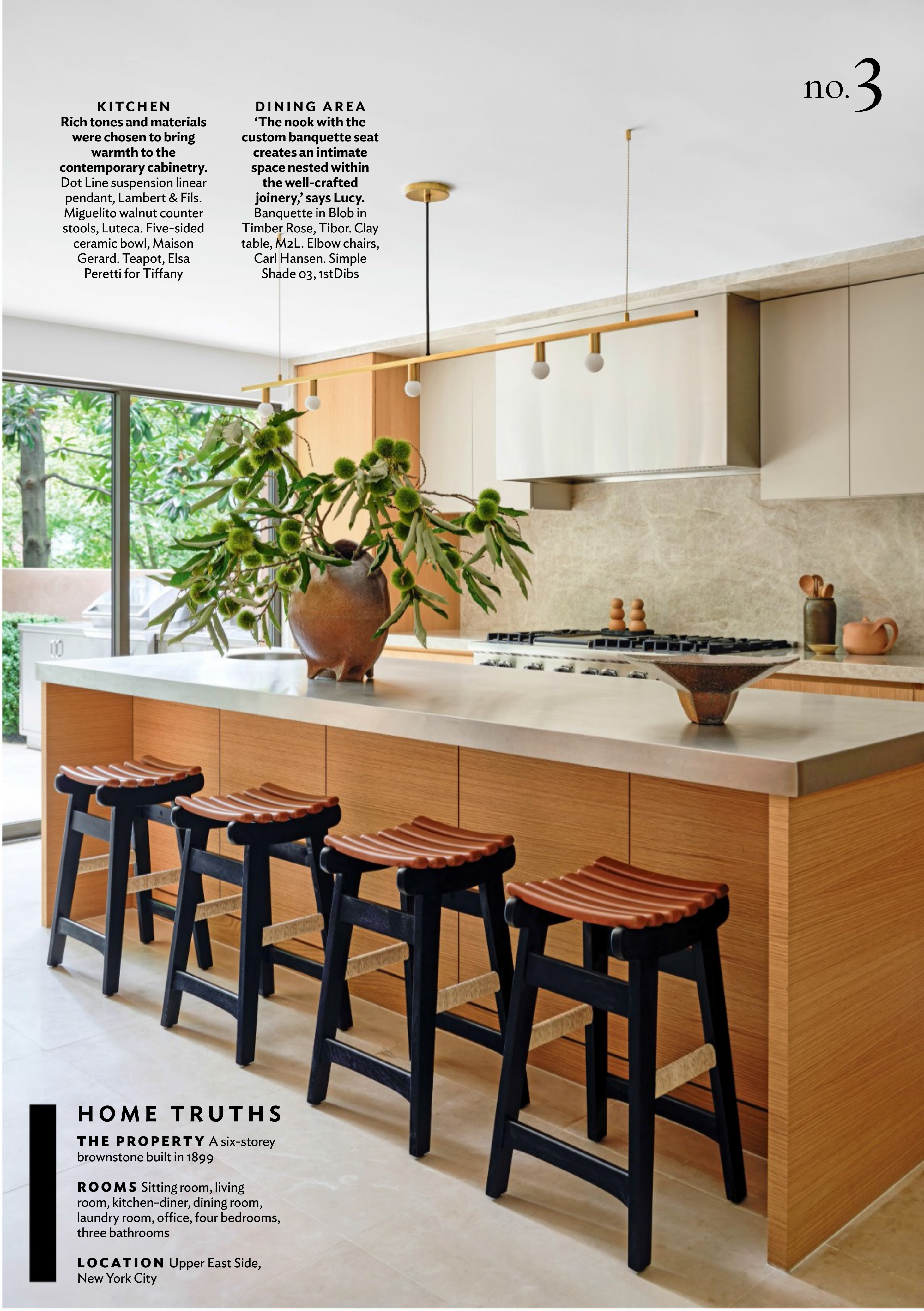
New beginnings

When their children left home, two empty nesters decided to stay put and give their New York brownstone one truly stunning makeover

WORDS KARINE MONIÉ | **PHOTOGRAPHY** READ MCKENDREE/JBSA | **STYLING** KATJA GREEFF



no.3

KITCHEN
Rich tones and materials were chosen to bring warmth to the contemporary cabinetry. Dot Line suspension linear pendant, Lambert & Fils. Miguelito walnut counter stools, Luteca. Five-sided ceramic bowl, Maison Gerard. Teapot, Elsa Peretti for Tiffany

DINING AREA
'The nook with the custom banquette seat creates an intimate space nested within the well-crafted joinery,' says Lucy. Banquette in Blob in Timber Rose, Tibor. Clay table, M2L. Elbow chairs, Carl Hansen. Simple Shade 03, 1stDibs

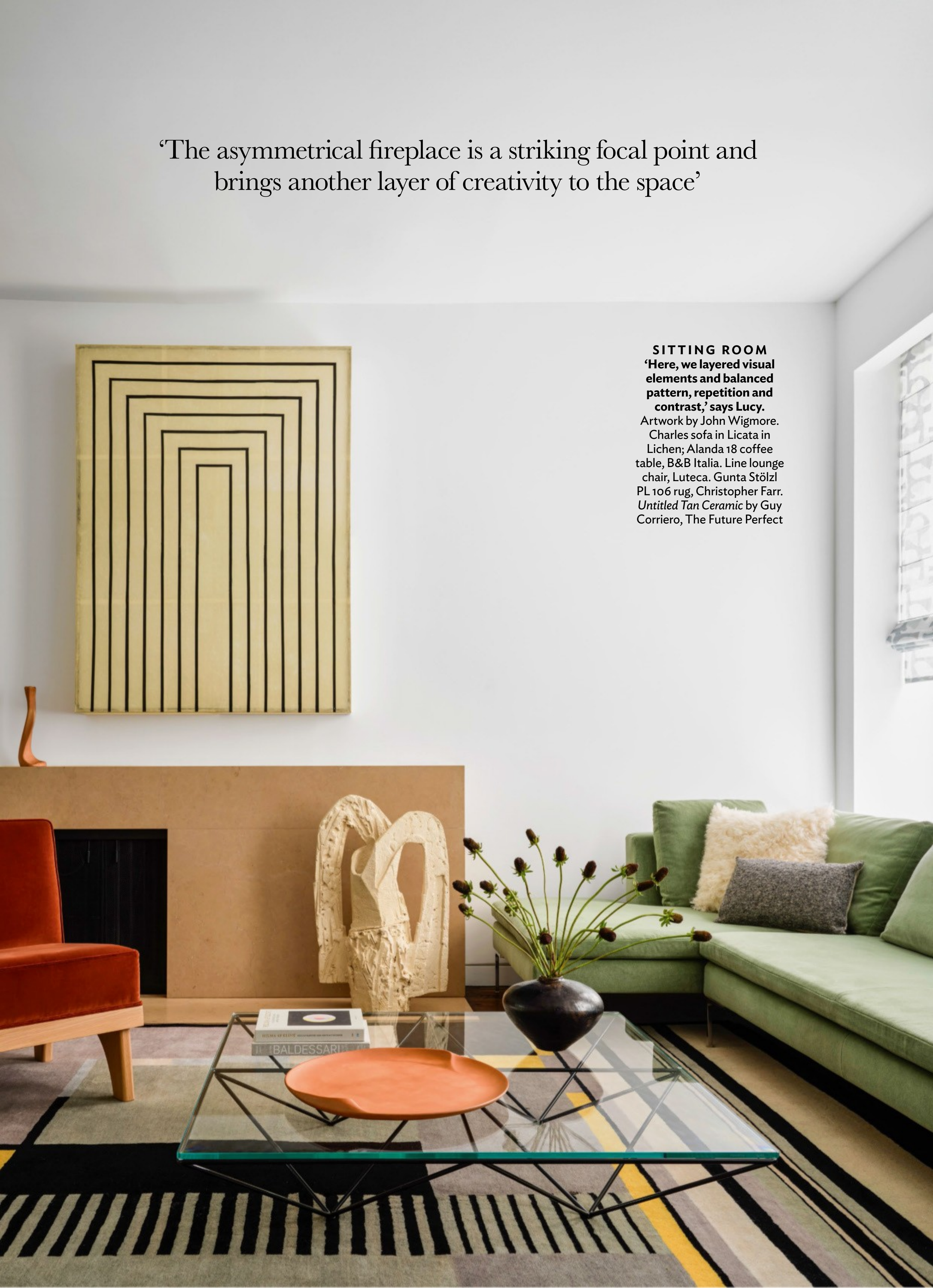
HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY A six-storey brownstone built in 1899

ROOMS Sitting room, living room, kitchen-diner, dining room, laundry room, office, four bedrooms, three bathrooms

LOCATION Upper East Side, New York City

> ‘The asymmetrical fireplace is a striking focal point and brings another layer of creativity to the space’

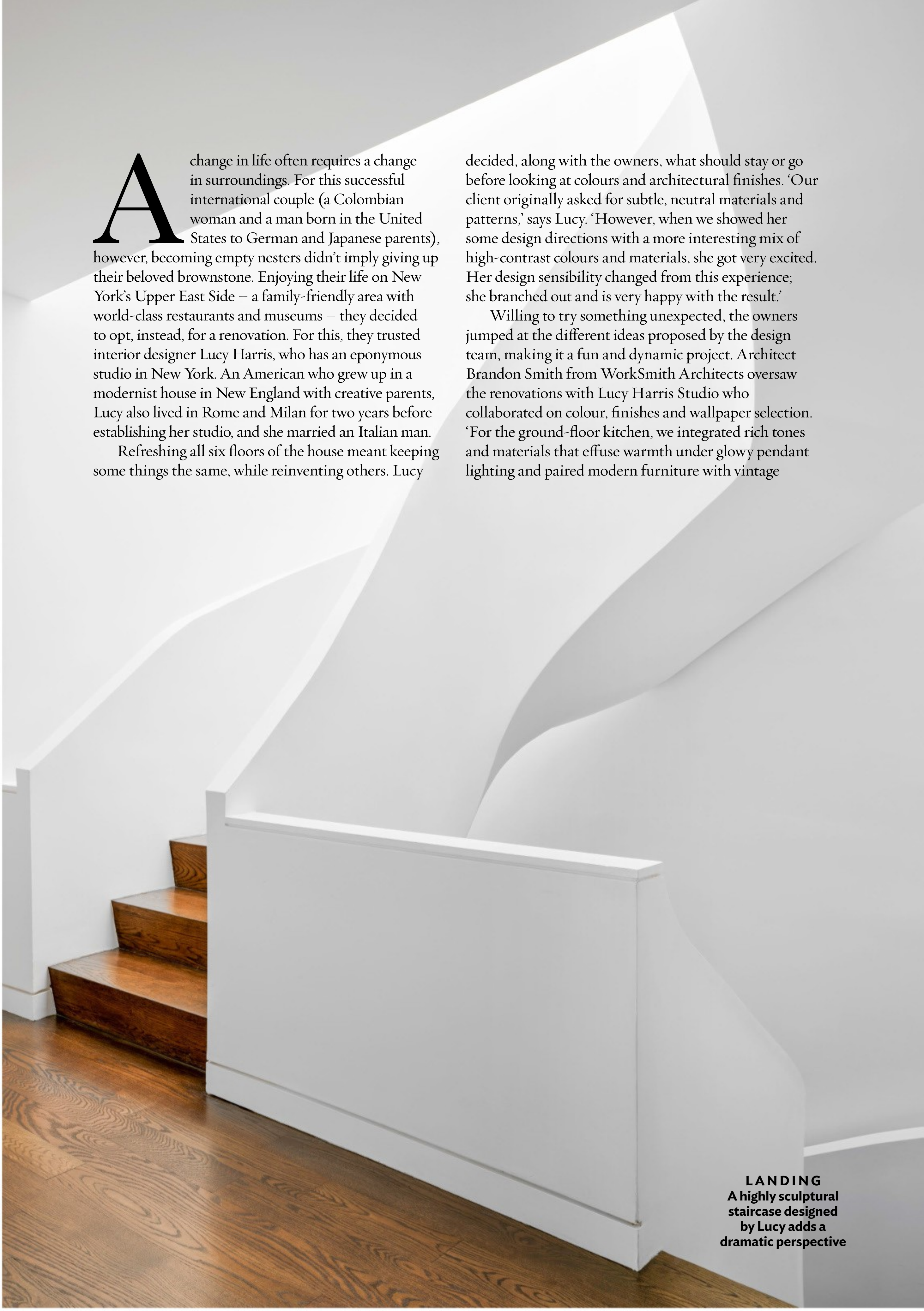


SITTING ROOM **‘Here, we layered visual elements and balanced pattern, repetition and contrast,’ says Lucy.** Artwork by John Wigmore. Charles sofa in Licata in Lichen; Alanda 18 coffee table, B&B Italia. Line lounge chair, Luteca. Gunta Stölzl PL 106 rug, Christopher Farr. *Untitled Tan Ceramic* by Guy Corriero, The Future Perfect

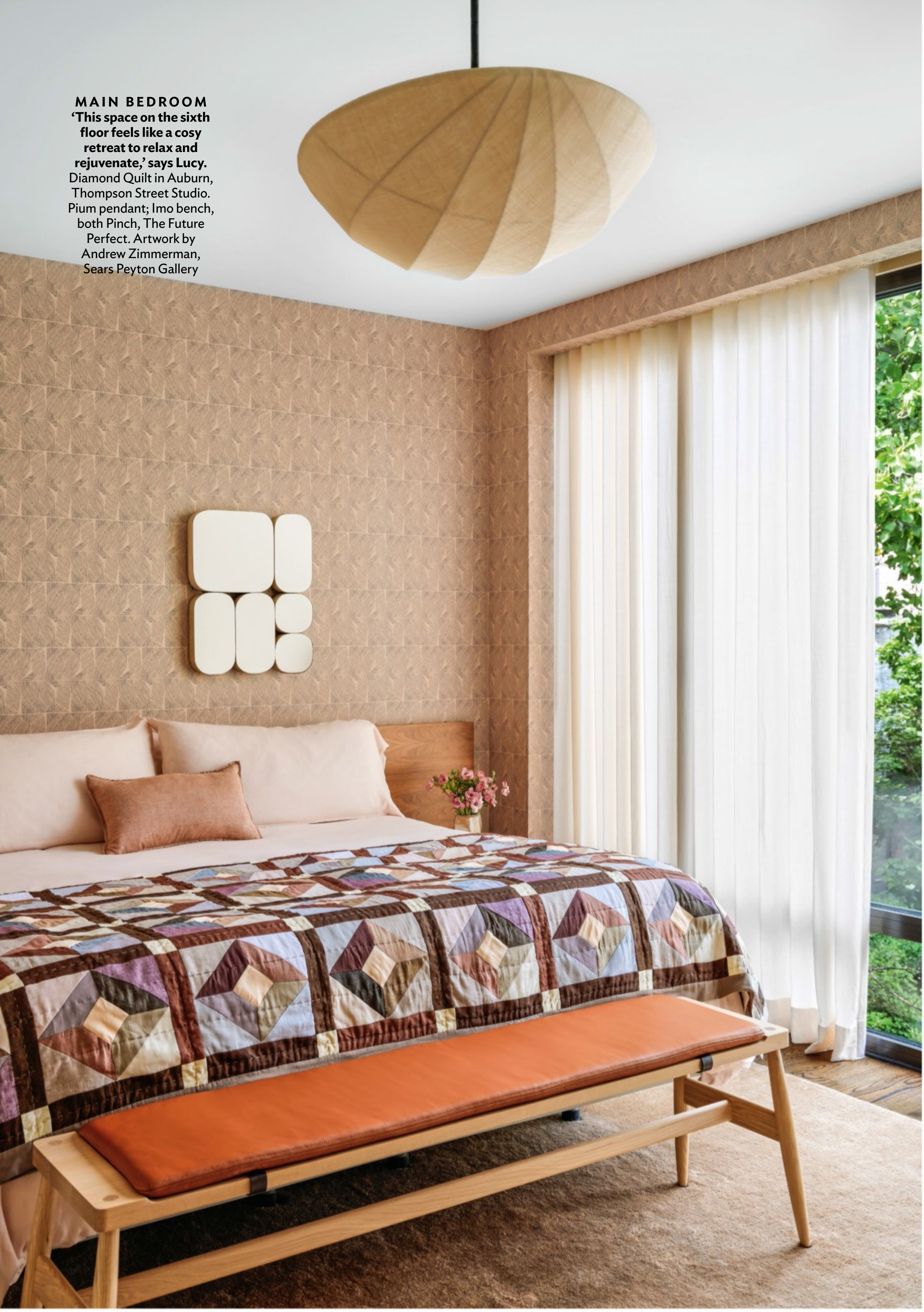
A change in life often requires a change in surroundings. For this successful international couple (a Colombian woman and a man born in the United States to German and Japanese parents), however, becoming empty nesters didn't imply giving up their beloved brownstone. Enjoying their life on New York's Upper East Side – a family-friendly area with world-class restaurants and museums – they decided to opt, instead, for a renovation. For this, they trusted interior designer Lucy Harris, who has an eponymous studio in New York. An American who grew up in a modernist house in New England with creative parents, Lucy also lived in Rome and Milan for two years before establishing her studio, and she married an Italian man.

Refreshing all six floors of the house meant keeping some things the same, while reinventing others. Lucy decided, along with the owners, what should stay or go before looking at colours and architectural finishes. 'Our client originally asked for subtle, neutral materials and patterns,' says Lucy. 'However, when we showed her some design directions with a more interesting mix of high-contrast colours and materials, she got very excited. Her design sensibility changed from this experience; she branched out and is very happy with the result.'

Willing to try something unexpected, the owners jumped at the different ideas proposed by the design team, making it a fun and dynamic project. Architect Brandon Smith from WorkSmith Architects oversaw the renovations with Lucy Harris Studio who collaborated on colour, finishes and wallpaper selection. 'For the ground-floor kitchen, we integrated rich tones and materials that effuse warmth under glowy pendant lighting and paired modern furniture with vintage



LANDING
A highly sculptural staircase designed by Lucy adds a dramatic perspective



MAIN BEDROOM
'This space on the sixth floor feels like a cosy retreat to relax and rejuvenate,' says Lucy. Diamond Quilt in Auburn, Thompson Street Studio. Pium pendant; Imo bench, both Pinch, The Future Perfect. Artwork by Andrew Zimmerman, Sears Peyton Gallery

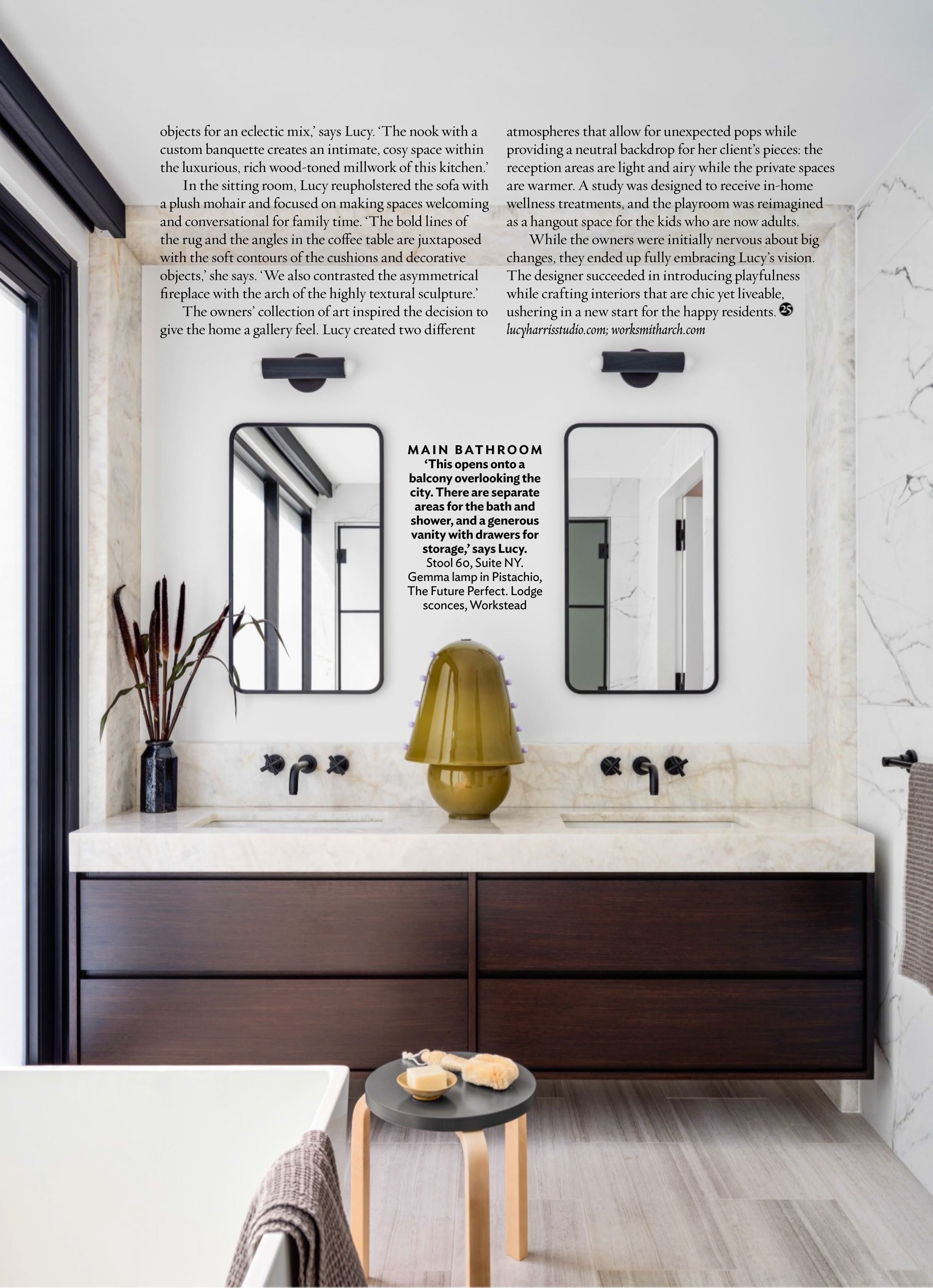
objects for an eclectic mix,' says Lucy. 'The nook with a custom banquette creates an intimate, cosy space within the luxurious, rich wood-toned millwork of this kitchen.'

In the sitting room, Lucy reupholstered the sofa with a plush mohair and focused on making spaces welcoming and conversational for family time. 'The bold lines of the rug and the angles in the coffee table are juxtaposed with the soft contours of the cushions and decorative objects,' she says. 'We also contrasted the asymmetrical fireplace with the arch of the highly textural sculpture.'

The owners' collection of art inspired the decision to give the home a gallery feel. Lucy created two different atmospheres that allow for unexpected pops while providing a neutral backdrop for her client's pieces: the reception areas are light and airy while the private spaces are warmer. A study was designed to receive in-home wellness treatments, and the playroom was reimagined as a hangout space for the kids who are now adults.

While the owners were initially nervous about big changes, they ended up fully embracing Lucy's vision. The designer succeeded in introducing playfulness while crafting interiors that are chic yet liveable, ushering in a new start for the happy residents.

lucyharrisstudio.com; worksmitharch.com



MAIN BATHROOM
'This opens onto a balcony overlooking the city. There are separate areas for the bath and shower, and a generous vanity with drawers for storage,' says Lucy. Stool 60, Suite NY. Gemma lamp in Pistachio, The Future Perfect. Lodge sconces, Workstead

Twist on tradition

no.4

This suburban home got a good dose of contemporary country cottage style courtesy of designer Kim Plummer

WORDS VIVIENNE AYERS | **PHOTOGRAPHY** ANNA STATHAKI

DINING AREA
The open-plan kitchen, dining and seating area combines form and function, providing a stylish and sociable place for relaxing and entertaining. Woolton extending dining table; Odyssey velvet Snuggle chair in Hebden linen, all Barker and Stonehouse

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY Semi-detached Edwardian Tudor Revival house

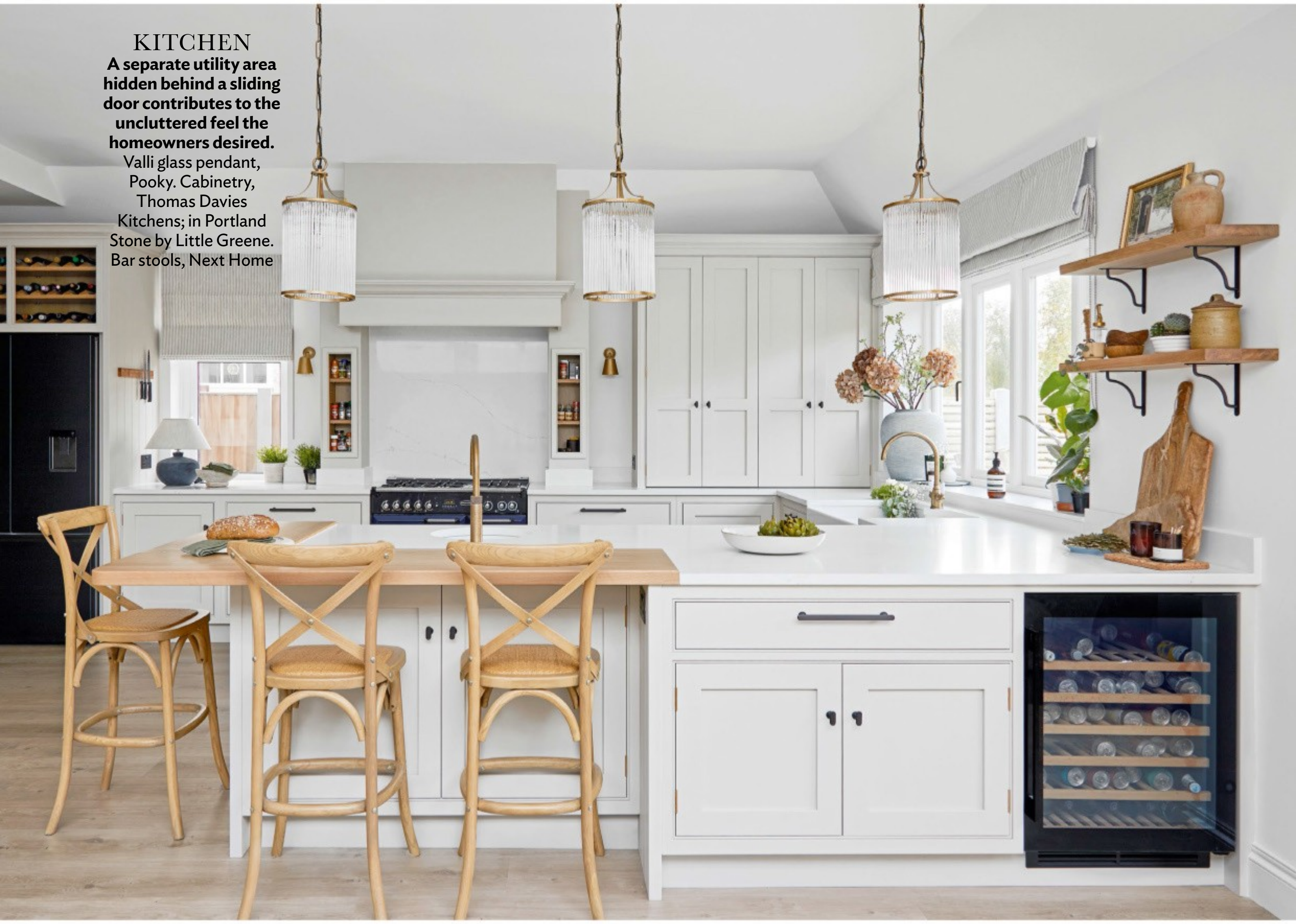
ROOMS Sitting room, kitchen-dining room, music room, cloakroom, office, five bedrooms, two bathrooms

LOCATION Surrey

WHAT WAS THE BRIEF? Originally it was to review the plans for an extension from an interior perspective and I was also able to connect the clients with Beckmann Architecture. I not only designed the interior space and selected the finishes but also collaborated closely with the architect. The ground floor was broken into small, disjointed spaces. The kitchen featured a step down, resulting in an awkward and impractical level change. The existing loft had been adapted but still held potential for further development. My brief was to reimagine the ground floor interiors – redesigning and creating schemes and selections for the kitchen, two reception rooms, cloakroom and utility – while also creating a luxury retreat in the main bedroom and en suite. We also refreshed several bedrooms to carry through the scheme.

WHAT WERE THE BIGGEST PRIORITIES FOR THE HOMEOWNERS? The clients love to entertain and their vision was for a home where cooking and socialising happen together. They also wanted more intimate breakout spaces and needed a dedicated music room. With teenagers, two dogs and a host of hobbies and outdoor pursuits, the design needed to balance a busy lifestyle with a calm, uncluttered feel. Functionality was key, so we therefore prioritised investing in durable fittings and fixtures that would endure without compromising style – and I designed bespoke storage and joinery.

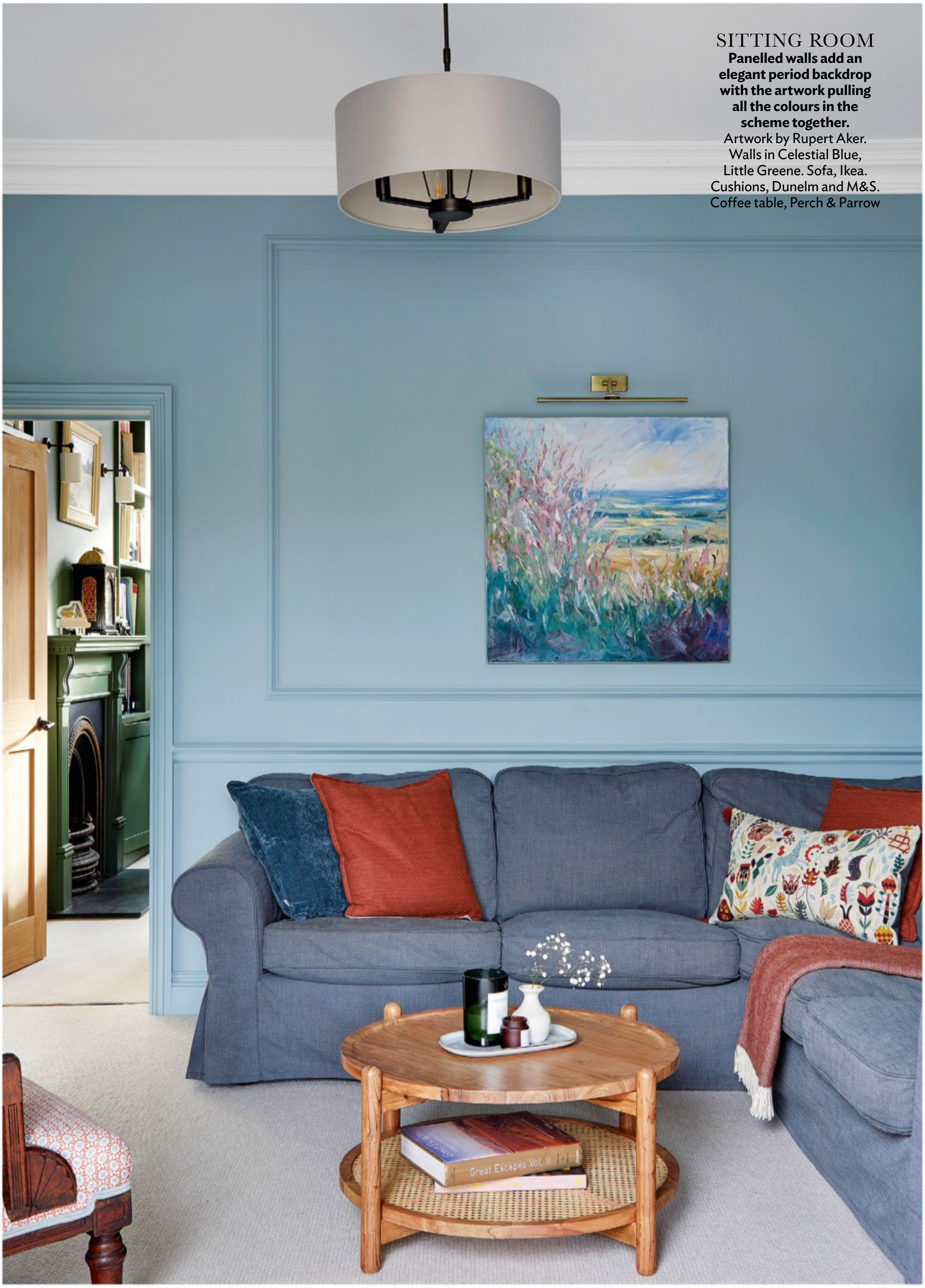
WHAT WAS YOUR INSPIRATION FOR THE SCHEME? I was inspired by the clients' love of the outdoors and traditional country cottages. I wanted to work with this while



KITCHEN

A separate utility area hidden behind a sliding door contributes to the uncluttered feel the homeowners desired. Valli glass pendant, Pooky. Cabinetry, Thomas Davies Kitchens; in Portland Stone by Little Greene. Bar stools, Next Home

'Using a different material for the breakfast area of the island was a smart move – it breaks up the swathe of white and introduces more warmth'



SITTING ROOM

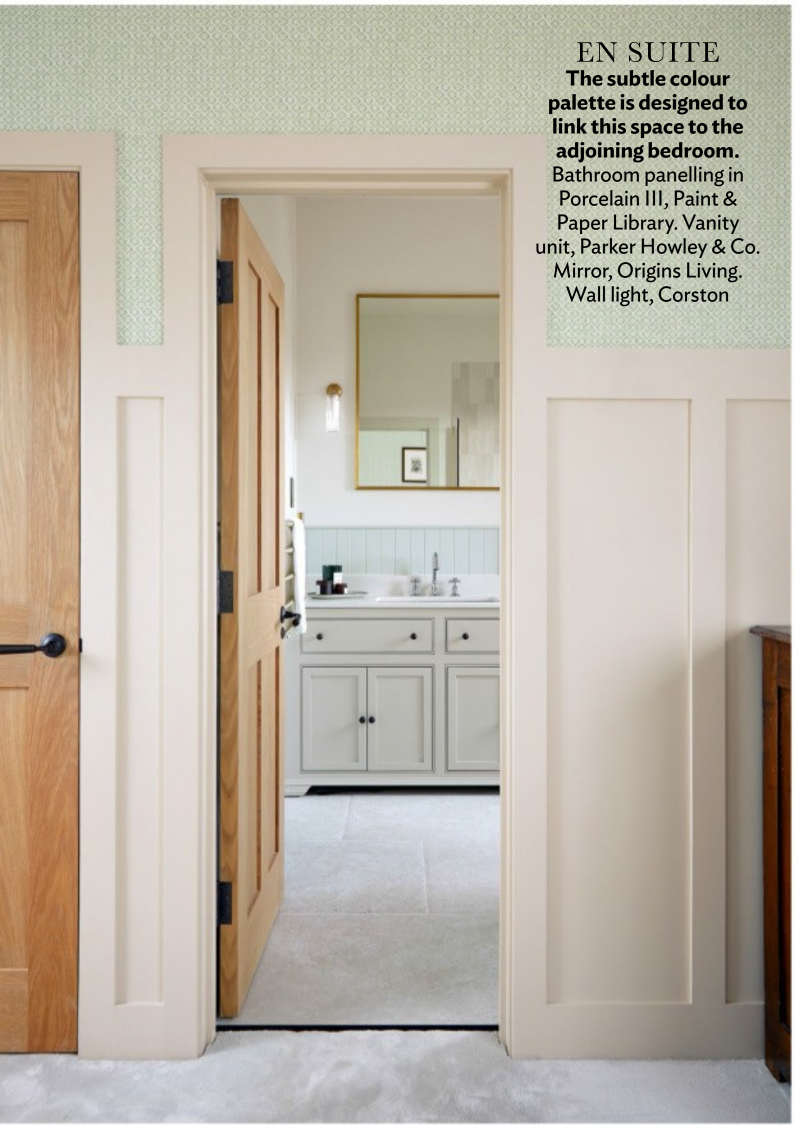
Panelled walls add an elegant period backdrop with the artwork pulling all the colours in the scheme together. Artwork by Rupert Aker. Walls in Celestial Blue, Little Greene. Sofa, Ikea. Cushions, Dunelm and M&S. Coffee table, Perch & Parrow acknowledging the home's suburban context. We blended timeless elements with contemporary touches. The main bedroom is a great example of where we embraced the country aesthetic more, aiming for the feel of a boutique country hotel.

WHAT WAS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE? Creating a ground floor that could comfortably accommodate large gatherings while still offering those intimate, cosy spaces that the clients wanted. To achieve this, we installed double doors with partial glazing between the dining area and the sitting room, as well as further doors opening up the music room and the hall. This helped created a seamless flow and also brought natural light into the windowless sitting room in the middle of the home. By creating this flexible, broken-plan design, it allowed for areas to be opened up or closed off for a more cosy atmosphere when required.

WHAT WAS THE MOST SATISFYING ASPECT OF THIS PROJECT? The hall – we replaced the flooring with stunning chequerboard limestone tiles. These create a statement and sit well among the existing architectural features. The tiles are also practical for a family with dogs. Changing the floor also allowed us to create a seamless level throughout.

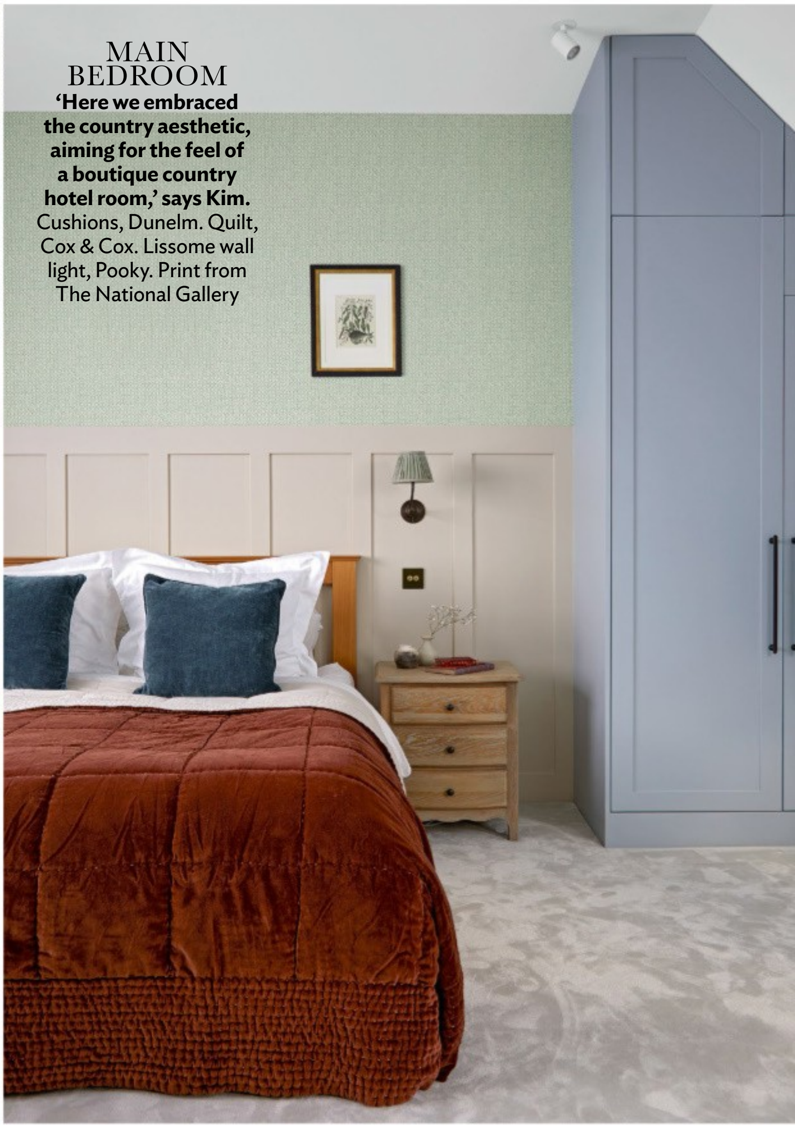
WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE FOR CREATING A SUCCESSFUL SCHEME? Consider your lifestyle habits and storage requirements when beginning to plan layouts and storage and always invest in quality fixtures and finishes.

plumandco-interiors.co.uk; be-ar.co.uk



EN SUITE

The subtle colour palette is designed to link this space to the adjoining bedroom. Bathroom panelling in Porcelain III, Paint & Paper Library. Vanity unit, Parker Howley & Co. Mirror, Origins Living. Wall light, Corston



MAIN BEDROOM

'Here we embraced the country aesthetic, aiming for the feel of a boutique country hotel room,' says Kim. Cushions, Dunelm. Quilt, Cox & Cox. Lissome wall light, Pooky. Print from The National Gallery

> 'In the bedroom, a different colour on the panelling and on the wardrobe feels fresh and contemporary'

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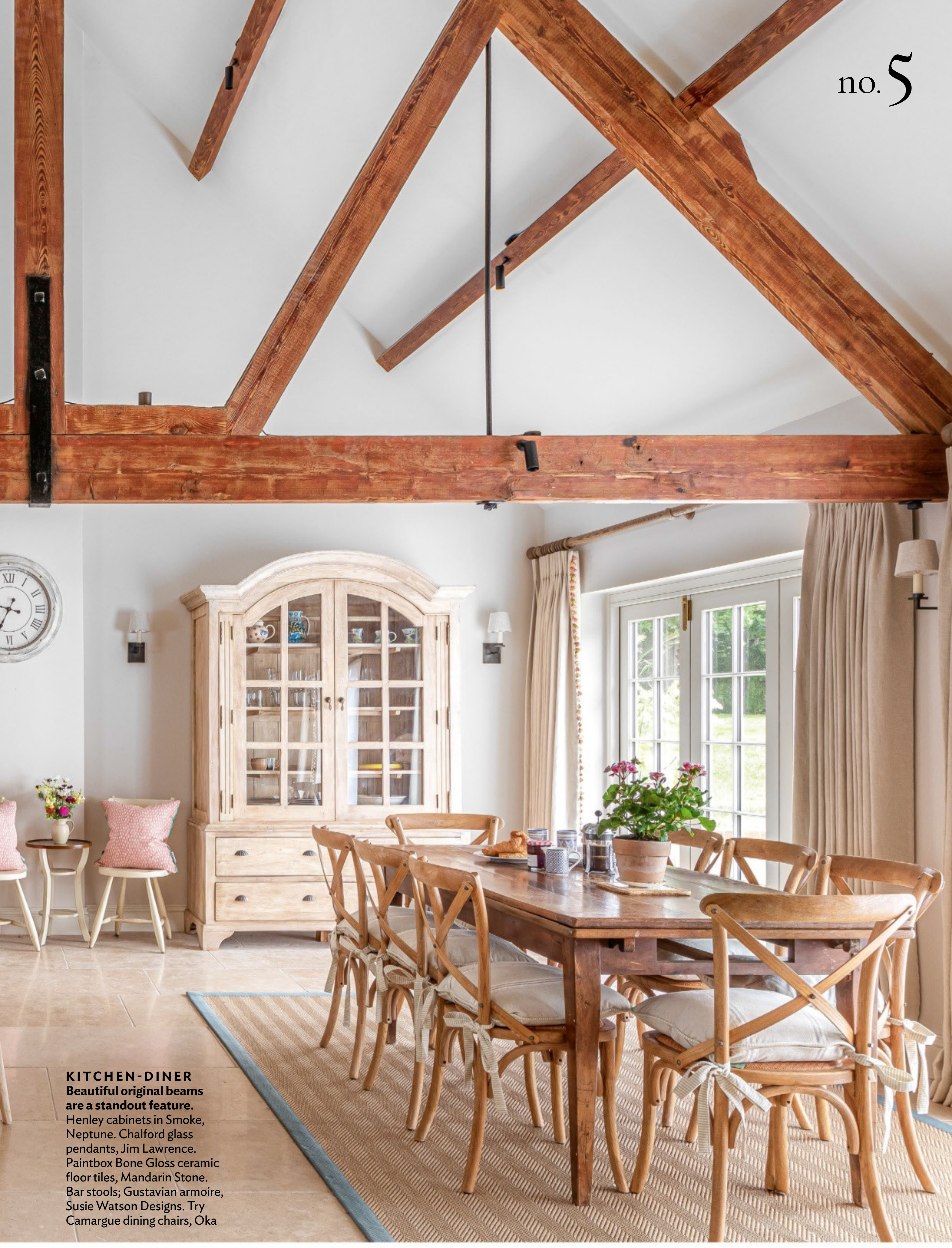
Family MATTERS

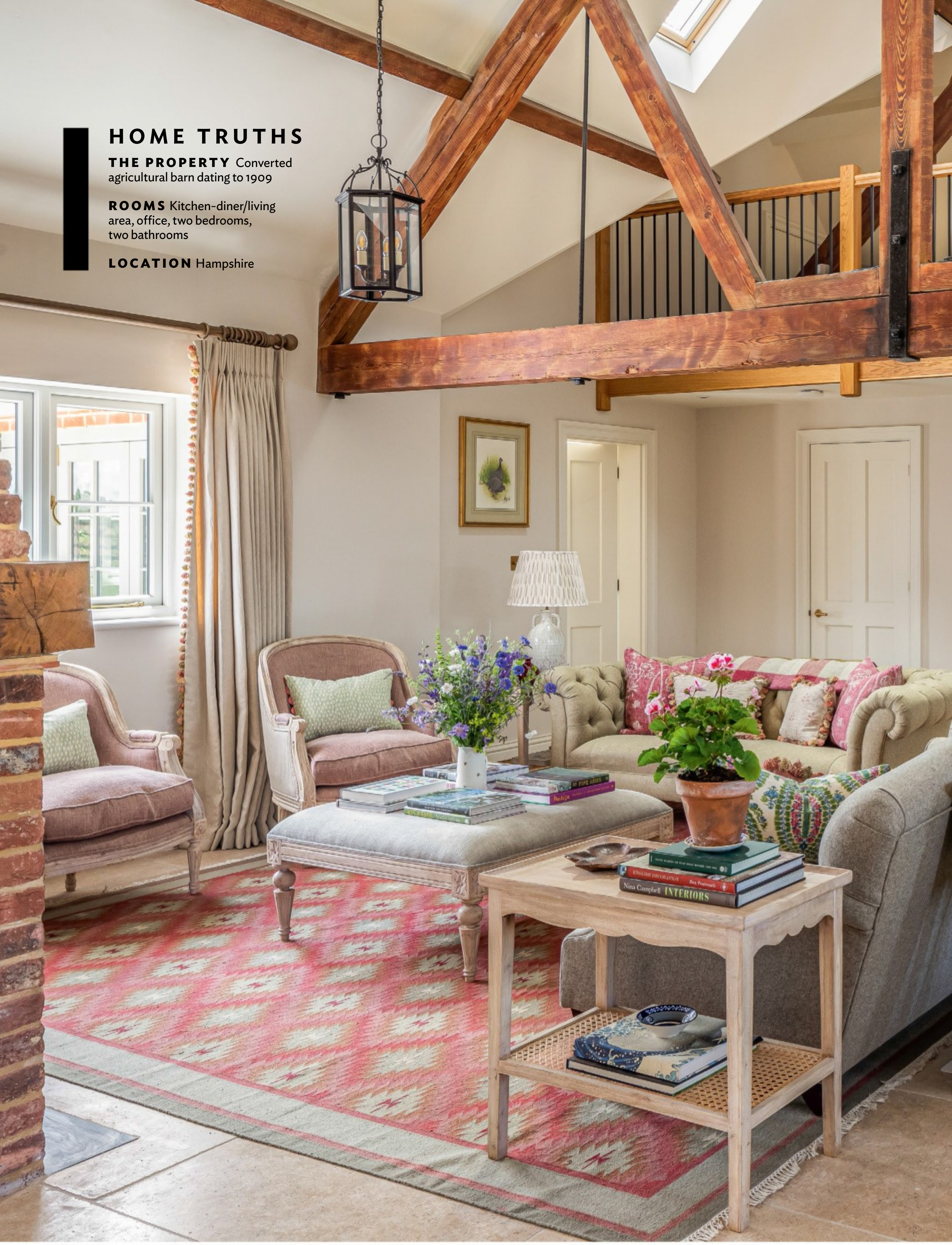
A derelict barn has been turned into a delightful home where multiple generations can relax and reconnect

WORDS RACHEL LEEDHAM | **PHOTOGRAPHY** JONATHAN BOND

no. 5



KITCHEN-DINER
Beautiful original beams are a standout feature. Henley cabinets in Smoke, Neptune. Chalford glass pendants, Jim Lawrence. Paintbox Bone Gloss ceramic floor tiles, Mandarin Stone. Bar stools; Gustavian armoire, Susie Watson Designs. Try Camargue dining chairs, Oka

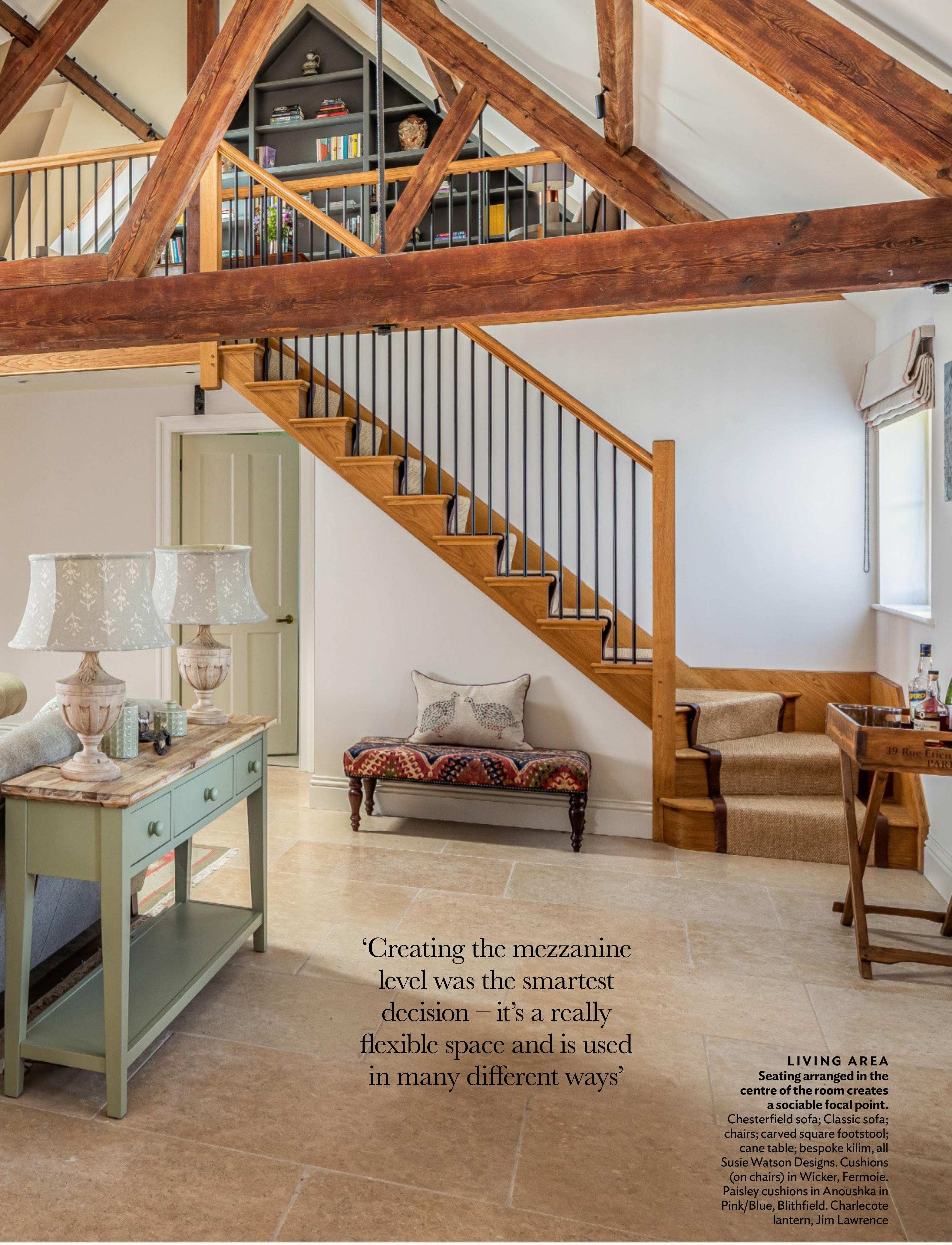


HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY Converted agricultural barn dating to 1909

ROOMS Kitchen-diner/living area, office, two bedrooms, two bathrooms

LOCATION Hampshire



> ‘Creating the mezzanine level was the smartest decision – it’s a really flexible space and is used in many different ways’

LIVING AREA
Seating arranged in the centre of the room creates a sociable focal point. Chesterfield sofa; Classic sofa; chairs; carved square footstool; cane table; bespoke kilim, all Susie Watson Designs. Cushions (on chairs) in Wicker, Fermoie. Paisley cushions in Anoushka in Pink/Blue, Blithfield. Charlecote lantern, Jim Lawrence

When Celia Freeman's daughter, Jess, discovered a lovely farmhouse for her family in the Hampshire countryside, the unexpected bonus was a derelict barn on the land. 'It felt like the perfect opportunity to create our own bolthole,' recalls Celia, who lives in London with her husband, James. 'It meant we could visit Jess and the children without being under their feet.'

With the vision set, an architect was brought in to draft plans, and Celia also enlisted the help of interior designer Lucy Taylor. 'Jess introduced me to Lucy and I found her fantastically empathetic and completely in tune with my ideas,' recounts Celia, whose daughter also played a key role: 'Being on site meant that Jess was able to keep a close eye on the builders, which was invaluable.'

Stripping the barn back to its beams revealed an unanticipated challenge: the original brick façade was crumbling beyond repair. 'We had to rebuild it with new bricks, although we salvaged a few to use in the porch flooring,' says Lucy, who was responsible for all the interior architecture, including the striking fireplace. 'Regulations prevented us from placing a wood-burning stove against a wall, but it actually works really well in

HALLWAY
Soft green joinery offers a calm welcome. Woodwork in Normandy Grey, Little Greene. Large carved lamp base; Reverse Smokey Blue Moonflower lampshade, Susie Watson Designs

BEDROOM
The room's serene palette was drawn from the oil painting above the bed. Headboard in Karamea in Sea Foam, Marvic Textiles. Quilt, Wicklewood. Cushion in Ikat Stripe in Coral, Blithfield. Come Fly With Me table lamp in Ivory, Rosanna Lonsdale

BEDROOM
The pretty curtain fabric, decorated with king protea flowers, reminds the couple of their time living in South Africa. Curtains in Paradesia in Orange/Olive, Sanderson. Bespoke headboards in Marden, Fermoie

SHOWER ROOM
Natural hues tie in with the views outside. Chichester washstand, Neptune. Panelling in Pigeon, Farrow & Ball. Retro metro tiles, Fired Earth. Swan neck wall light with fluted glass shade; Baloo mirror, both Pooky

the centre of the room – it helps divide up what is essentially one big entertaining space,' she points out.

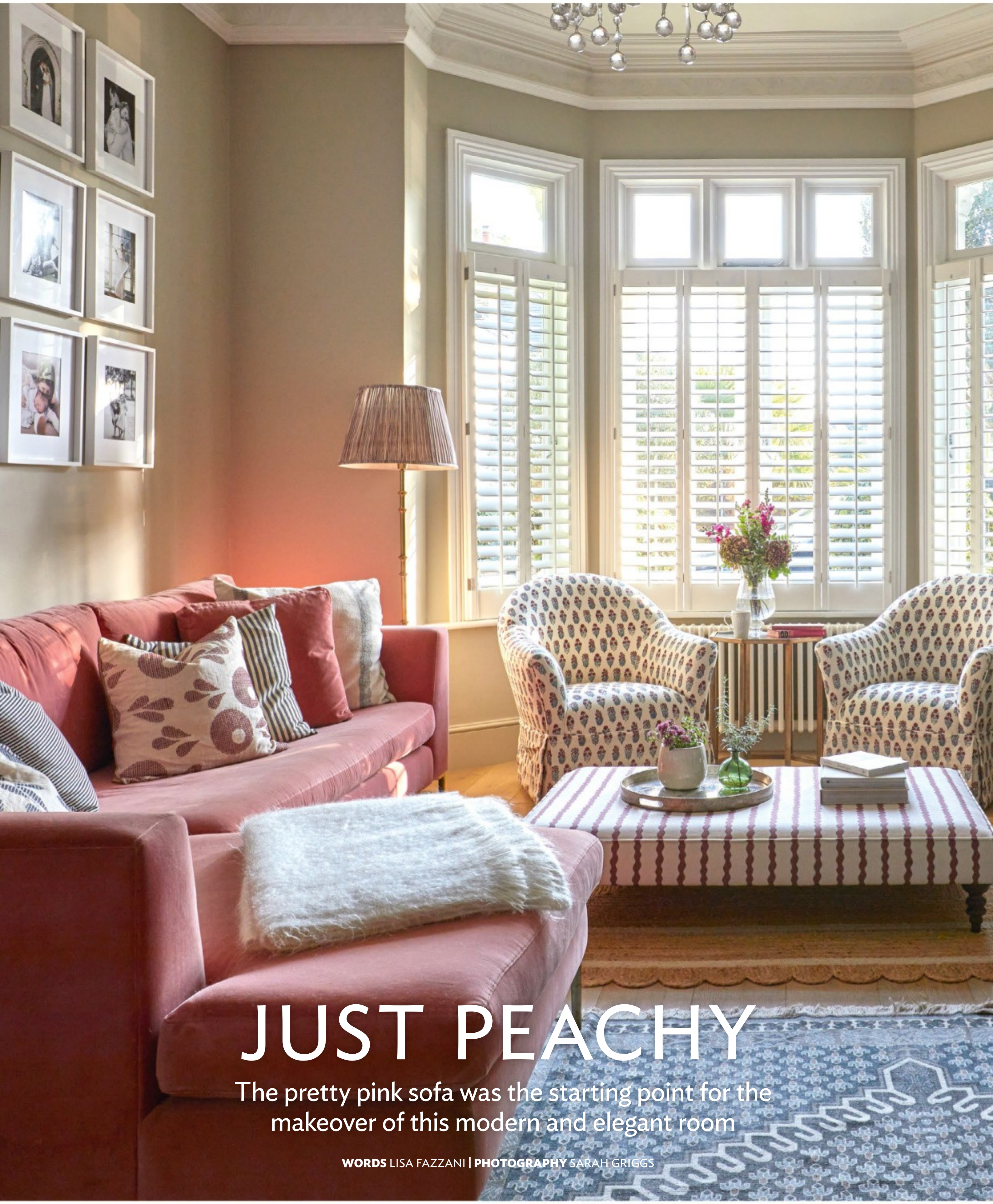
A bedroom and bathroom were created at one end of the structure, while a small extension was added to accommodate the main bedroom and bathroom. Natural materials sit harmoniously with the original weathered oak beams, including practical tumbled limestone flags, which were teamed with cosy underfloor heating.

Soft, earthy hues bring warmth to the interiors, inspired by a visit to a Susie Watson Designs showroom. 'The colours of the furniture and soft furnishings were bouncing out at me,' says Celia. A kilim she coveted was commissioned in a bespoke size, and this proved the steer for the pinks and greens of the furnishings in the living area. The kitchen cabinetry was painted a smoky blue, mirroring the book-lined mezzanine at the far end of the barn, which houses an office area and a sofa bed for guests.

Among the pieces are family heirlooms, including an oak dining table. 'It belonged to my grandmother, then my mother, and the beauty of it is that it expands to seat a crowd,' says Celia. 'It's looking old and scraped, but every time I suggest having it repolished I'm met with protests!'

Now, nearly three years since its completion, the barn has become a wonderful gathering place. 'My mother, who passed away just before her hundredth birthday, adored sitting here, taking in the view across the fields,' Celia says. 'Jess often uses the barn for entertaining and my other daughter, who lives in London, visits with her three children which means all the cousins can regularly get together. It has become a special place for all of us.' ㉕

lucindataylor.co.uk

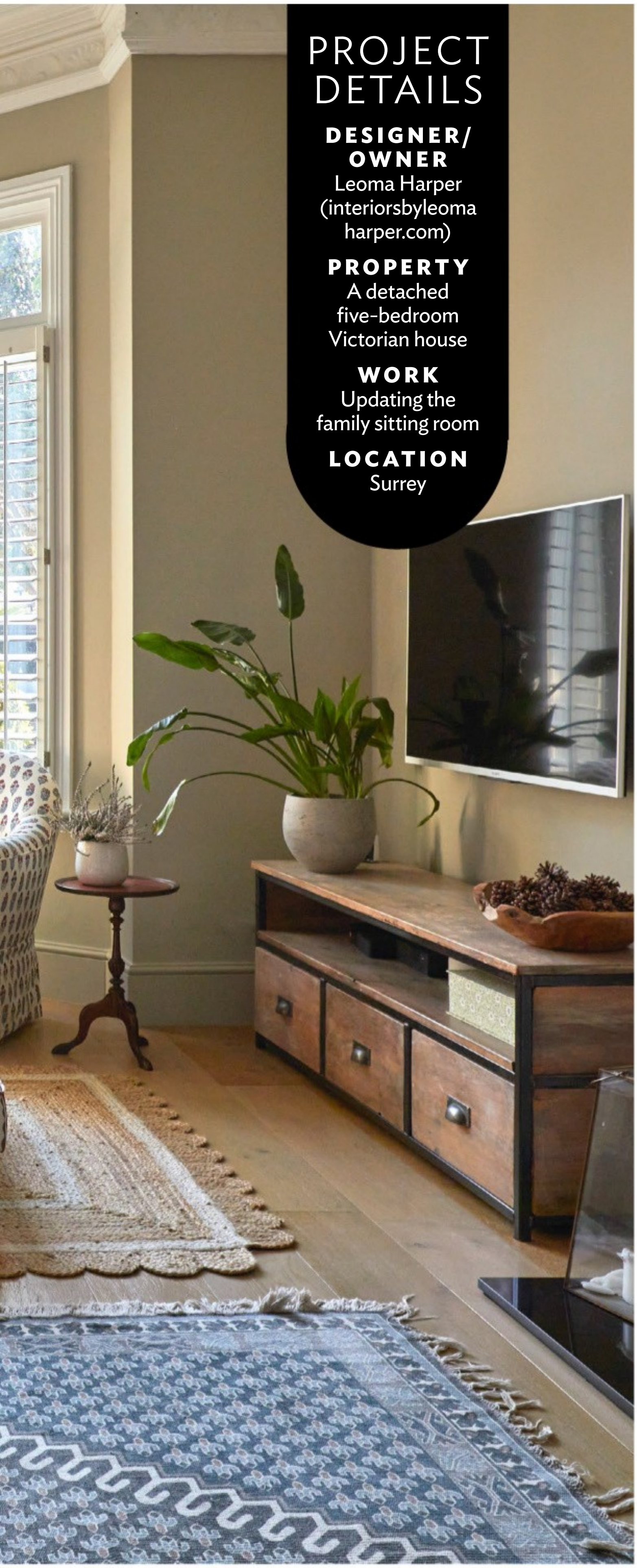


JUST PEACHY

The pretty pink sofa was the starting point for the makeover of this modern and elegant room

WORDS LISA FAZZANI | **PHOTOGRAPHY** SARAH GRIGGS

no.6



PROJECT DETAILS

DESIGNER/ OWNER
Leoma Harper (interiorsbyleomaharper.com)

PROPERTY
A detached five-bedroom Victorian house

WORK
Updating the family sitting room

LOCATION
Surrey

Having originally decorated the sitting room nine years ago when she and her family moved in, interior designer Leoma Harper felt that the space was long overdue a refresh.

1 CHANGE OF BACKDROP

'The room has beautiful period features, like the fireplace, original cornicing and ceiling rose,' says Leoma, 'so when we first moved in, it was just a matter of adding wooden flooring, new radiators and painting throughout. We opted for a dark blue on the walls originally, which we loved, but after nine years, the room was starting to feel tired and I wanted to lift it with a lighter colour scheme. Keeping our lovely coral pink chaise sofa was a must, so a palette of colours that complemented the plush peachy velvet upholstery was key to the redesign.'

2 COMPLEMENTARY COLOURS

'The sitting room is south-facing which makes it sunny and bright, but the dark blue walls tended to make it feel like a cinema room. Repainting the walls a soft beige has made such a difference, the room feels warmer and cosier and the colour works beautifully with the coral of the sofa. To complement these shades, I also brought in accents of earthy red and soft denim blue.'

3 BALANCED PROPORTIONS

'Another element I was keen to add was a small reading nook in the bay window. Originally, we put a sofa there, but it felt quite blocky and didn't suit the elegant angles of the bay. I replaced the sofa with two more shapely armchairs plus a small side table positioned between them. The chairs feel much better proportioned. I also swapped a glass coffee table for the large ottoman. It has no sharp edges – key with young children – and you can put your feet up or add a tray to rest things on.'

4 CONSIDERED DECISIONS

'It took a while to get this room just right, but I am so pleased with how it's turned out. Finding the perfect colour, the right fabric pattern or the exact piece of furniture to fit a space can take time, but my advice would always be not to rush things. Take your time and you're less likely to make rash purchases that you'll regret later.'

@styletheclutter; @interiorsbyleomaharper

EASY REFRESH

Wooden floorboards are softened underfoot by scatter rugs. 'Rather than one large area rug, I think the combination of two helps to define the different areas,' says Leoma. Shoreditch three-seater chaise **sofa** in Brick Easy Clean Plush Velvet, Darlings of Chelsea, is similar. **Walls in** Drop Cloth, Farrow & Ball. **Armchairs; ottoman,** all Boura & White. Poppyfield cotton **rug** in Navy, French Connection at Next. Grace jute white **rug,** Dunelm, is similar

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY New-build home

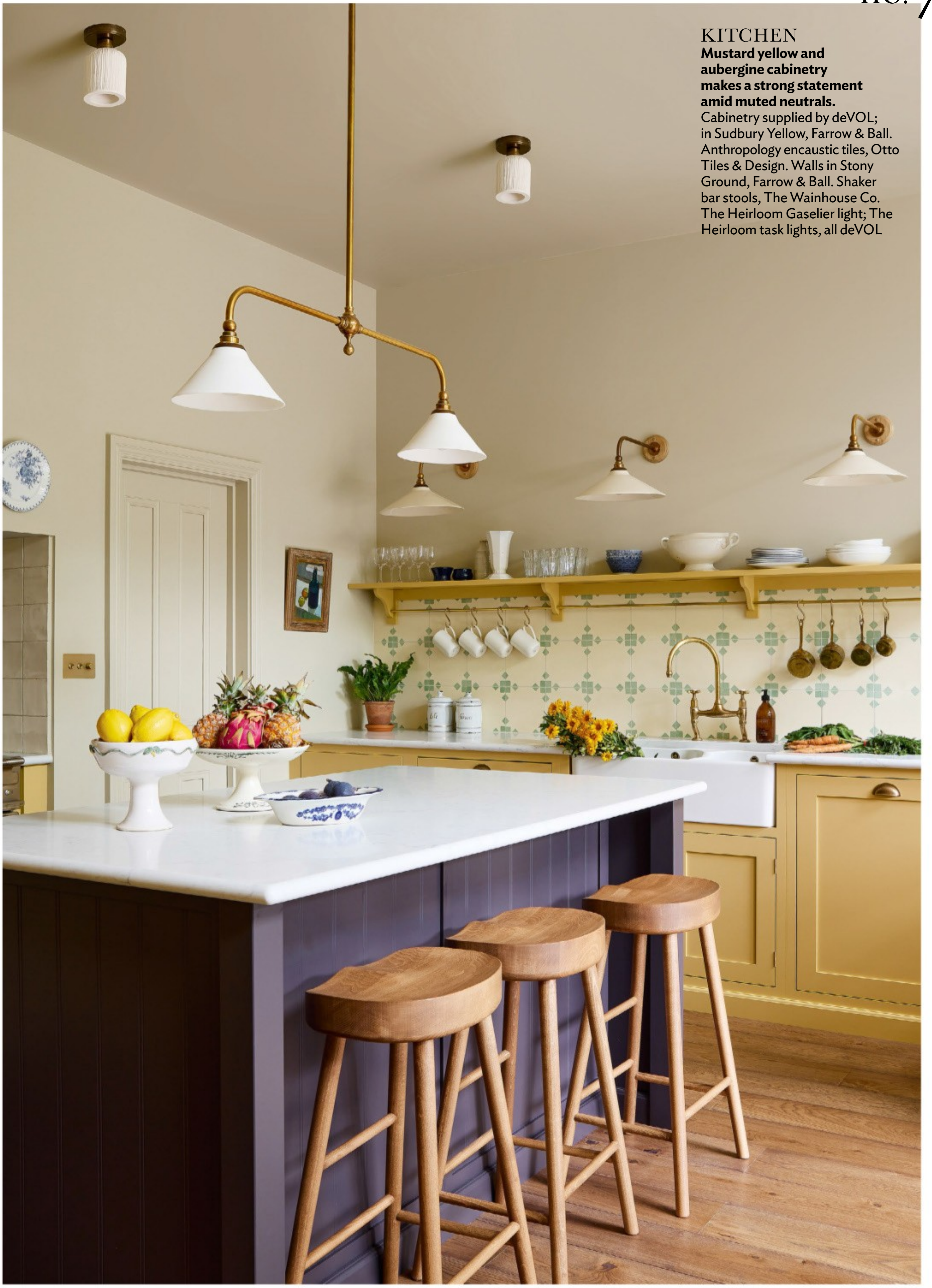
ROOMS Sitting room, kitchen-diner/living area, cloakroom, four bedrooms, two bathrooms

LOCATION Surrey

Character study

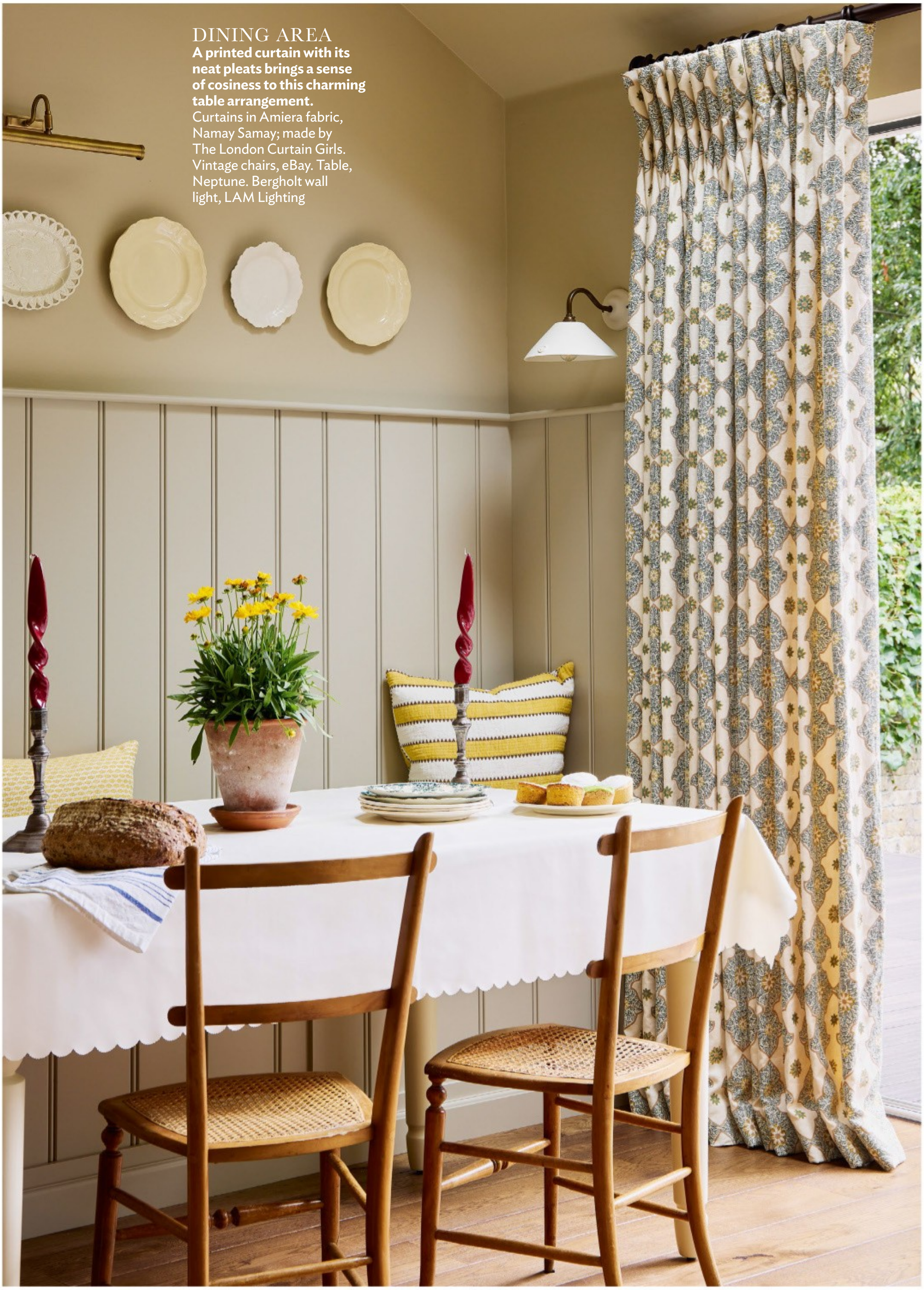
This new build feels as though it's been around for generations and that's down to Uns Hobbs' use of colour, pattern, art and found objects

WORDS JULIET BENNING | **PHOTOGRAPHY** BOZ GAGOVSKI



KITCHEN

Mustard yellow and aubergine cabinetry makes a strong statement amid muted neutrals. Cabinetry supplied by deVOL; in Sudbury Yellow, Farrow & Ball. Anthropology encaustic tiles, Otto Tiles & Design. Walls in Stony Ground, Farrow & Ball. Shaker bar stools, The Wainhouse Co. The Heirloom Gaselier light; The Heirloom task lights, all deVOL



DINING AREA

A printed curtain with its neat pleats brings a sense of cosiness to this charming table arrangement. Curtains in Amiera fabric, Namay Samay; made by The London Curtain Girls. Vintage chairs, eBay. Table, Neptune. Bergholt wall light, LAM Lighting

LIVING AREA **A combination of simple ticking fabrics is a timeless choice.** Cabinetry skirt in Memory Stripe, Julia Brendel. Sofa, Love Your Home; in Coutances fabric in Sapin by Casal

HOW DID YOU COME TO BE INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT? The clients contacted me over email having found me on Instagram – that's actually how I get about 90 per cent of my work, the rest coming through referrals. They explained that the project was a new build and invited me to come and view it with them. I always have an introductory meeting with new clients to get a sense of the vibe between us.

WHAT WERE THE MAIN PRIORITIES OF THE HOMEOWNERS? The house, which had only just been completed by a developer, had an attractive mock Victorian appearance at the front but inside was a big grey and white box with zero character. The clients are a young couple with two children and they liked the amount of space it offered, with a lovely wide entrance and rooms that are generous in size. They had budgeted money originally intended for the purchase price especially for an interior design project that would inject warmth and character. They had only lived in the house three months when they hired me, so it had always been their plan to do the work as quickly as possible.

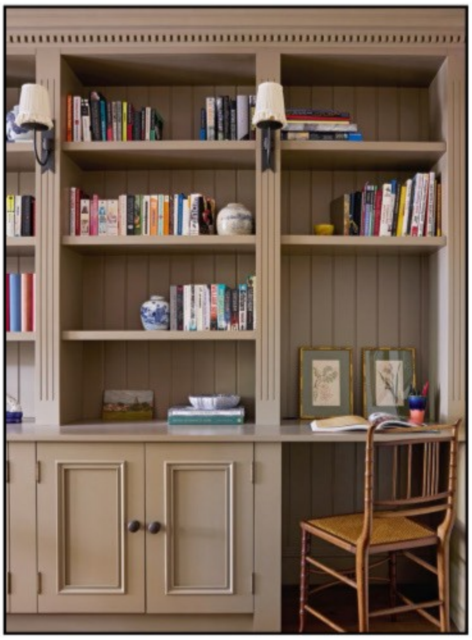
HOW INVOLVED WERE THE HOMEOWNERS? In the early stages I got on with designing the schemes but when the contractor started, I was on site once a week making sure everything was

HALLWAY **Moss green panelling and spindles anchor the space, while the wallpaper adds a sense of nostalgia.** Fernwood wallpaper in Beige, Colefax and Fowler. Panelling in Invisible Green, Little Greene. Schoolhouse pendants, Mullan Lighting. Runner, Unnatural Flooring

'FINDING THE RIGHT YELLOW FOR THE KITCHEN WAS IMPORTANT – WE WANTED A BUTTERY TONE, SOMETHING THAT WOULD LIFT EVERYONE'S SPIRITS EACH DAY'

SITTING ROOM

Cabinetry, with its detailed beadwork, blends with the elegant cornicing. Cabinetry made by Militao Carpentry; in Mouse's Back, Farrow & Ball. Vintage chair, Fern & Green. Wall lights in cabinetry, Jim Lawrence



going smoothly. I would then go through the status of the project with the owners. To begin with, their approach was quite muted and safe so I tried to push them out of their boundaries with colour.

They came to the house with virtually nothing so we sourced all the furniture and accessories and around 30 pieces of art.

WHAT WERE YOUR STRATEGIES FOR ADDING CHARACTER? We started with the kitchen and sitting room, making sure everything flowed nicely and once we had got that right, we moved onto texture and lighting. Ceilings were given cornicing details. The owners had plenty of books so we built in wardrobes and joinery. We went to vintage shops and sourced loads of pottery. With the artworks, we wanted it to feel as if the owners had been collecting for years. I've got social media notifications on for when lots of antique dealers post and sometimes I'll email them specifically asking for a piece that might fit a certain nook. I go to all the antique markets and always take plenty of photos.

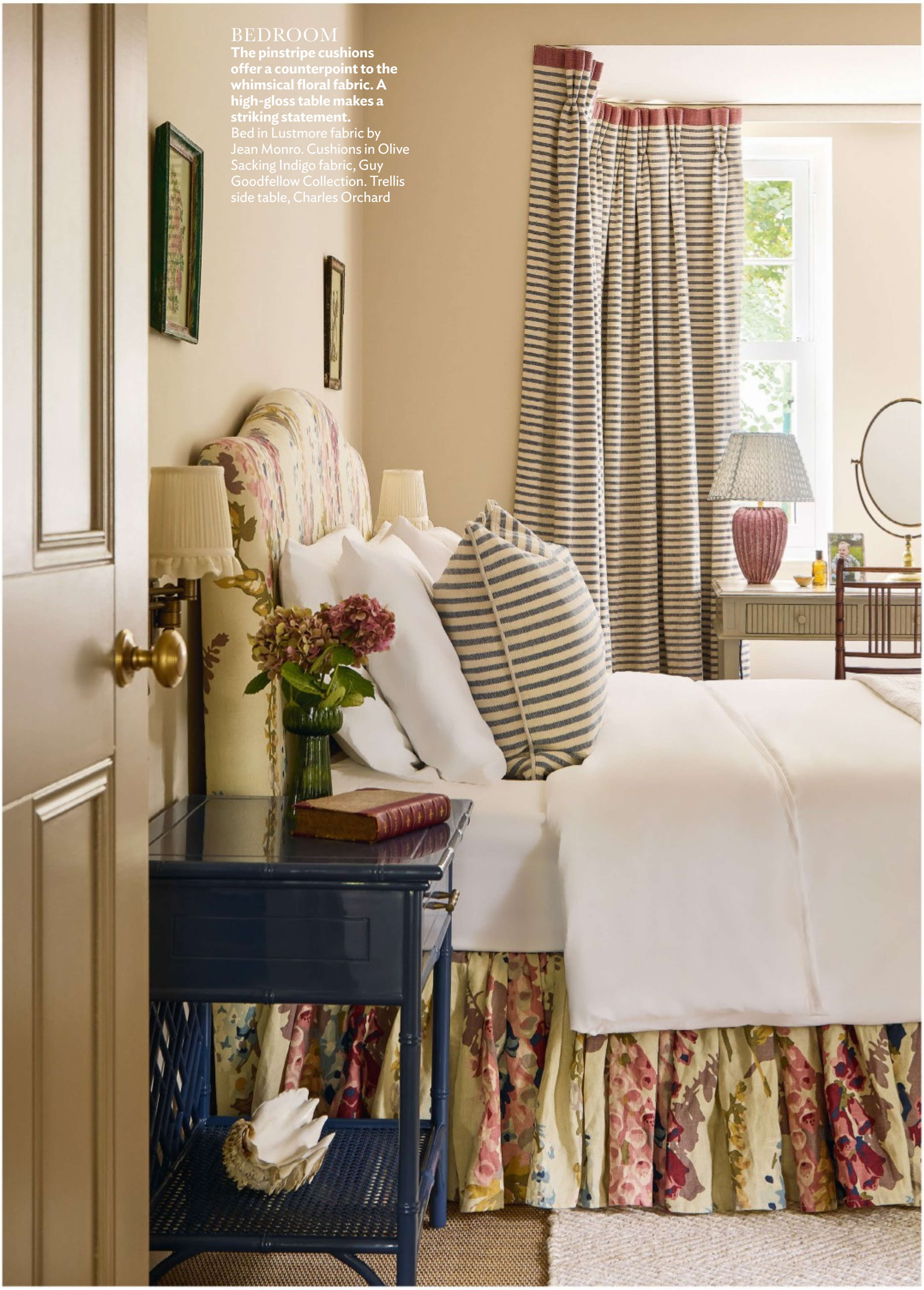
WHAT'S YOUR ADVICE FOR CREATING A SUCCESSFUL SCHEME? Always go with your gut. Once you've found a style that you like, try to build on that. If there's something you've always loved, be bold and embrace it.

unshobbs.co.uk

'I ADDED A FINELY DETAILED CORNICING IN THE SITTING ROOM FOR INSTANT ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST, THEN ENVELOPED THE WALLS IN A WARM, NEUTRAL SHADE'

SITTING ROOM

A combination of green and red fabrics strikes a classic note. Trays on the ottoman enable it to double as a coffee table. Walls in Oxford Stone, Farrow & Ball. Florence sofa; Eliza armchair, both Love Your Home. Curtains in Lorcan fabric by Cinny. Footstool in Dorian fabric by Colefax and Fowler, made by The Bespoke Footstool Company



BEDROOM

The pinstripe cushions offer a counterpoint to the whimsical floral fabric. A high-gloss table makes a striking statement.
Bed in Lustmore fabric by Jean Monro. Cushions in Olive Sacking Indigo fabric, Guy Goodfellow Collection. Trellis side table, Charles Orchard

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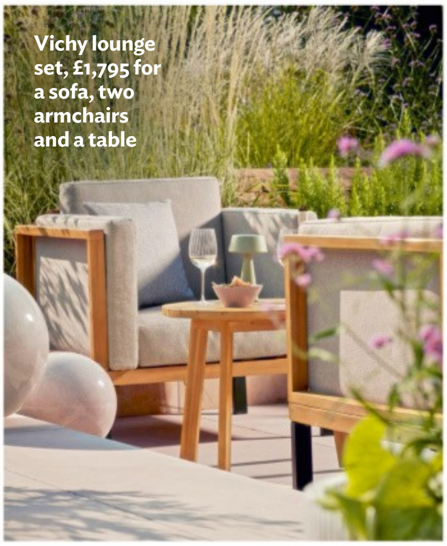

Vichy lounge set, £1,795 for a sofa, two armchairs and a table

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Vintage CHARM

It's hard to decide if the inside or outside of this Edwardian townhouse is more charming – but both were made with love

WORDS SARA EMSLIE | **PHOTOGRAPHY** ROBERTA ASHLEY

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY
Detached Edwardian townhouse

ROOMS Double sitting room, snug, kitchen, conservatory/dining area, cloakroom, four bedrooms, bathroom

LOCATION Shropshire

DINING AREA **The conservatory provides the perfect place to dine, with views and direct access to the garden. Classic French bistro chairs add a dash of utility chic.** Walls in Shadow White, Farrow & Ball. Table, Miles Griffiths Antiques. Chairs and pendant light, eBay. Find similar Thonet French bistro chairs, 1stDibs

GARDEN **This is filled with favourite flowers throughout the summer, from towering foxgloves and sunflowers to colourful cosmos, sweet peas and dahlias. A patio area provides sociable space for alfresco entertaining. A greenhouse has been on Jane's wish list for several years, and provides the perfect place to sow seedlings, grow tomatoes and doubles up as a place to relax.** Greenhouse in Silver/Sage, Rhino Greenhouses. Potting table, Violet Grey. Jane likes to buy seeds from Milli Proust and Bishy Barnabee's Cottage Garden

PLAGE
EAU SAL
ROUGE
CONFITURE DE POIRES
MOUTARD

HALLWAY

This area boasts some wonderful architectural features, including the original ornately patterned tiled floor. Similar Edwardian floor tiles, London Mosaic. Similar prints, One.World

SNUG

A pair of armchairs and a wood burner make this a cosy spot to relax. Vintage pieces and dried flower heads provide rustic charm alongside a large ceramic pot that Jane purchased while on holiday in Deia, Mallorca. Ceramic pot (by wood burner), Dora Ceramics. Similar vintage table and mirror, Petersham Nurseries

SITTING ROOM

A pale colour scheme creates a sense of elegance and calm in the double-aspect sitting room. An eye-catching gallery wall of favourite artwork and framed prints adds colour and definition above an antique set of apothecary drawers, used to display a curated collection of delicate ceramics. Walls in Strong White, Farrow & Ball. Sofas, Sofa.com. Green velvet cushions made by Jane's aunt from a vintage curtain; similar from Ellei Home. Apothecary drawers, Miles Griffiths Antiques. For similar artwork, try Medium Room. Ceramics, Astier de Villatte

Transforming a house into a home can often be an evolutionary process. When Jane Davies and her husband Martin purchased a period property in a market town in Shropshire back in 2002, their intentions were always for the long term. With three young children in tow, with ages ranging from six years to two months, any house deemed worthy of being their forever family home had to deliver big in every sense, even if it meant moving in and then temporarily moving out for essential works to be done. 'The whole house needed rewiring and gas heating installed,' explains Jane, 'so we had to move out for a couple of weeks for all the floorboards to be taken up. It was a complete mess and very stressful with three young children!' But Jane has exceptionally good visionary sense and, coupled with her love of interior design, she knew it would be worth it. The large garden, full of potential, also appealed, and fed Jane's love of growing flowers. It sealed the deal.

Once the essential works were complete, Jane and Martin took a slow but meticulous approach to gradually updating each room, using their time and funds carefully. 'We had to strip the wallpaper in the whole house as it all needed replastering, which we did as and when we had time,' she says. This inadvertently allowed them to get a sense of the natural flow in the house, so any further modifications would have maximum impact. One of the most striking improvements is the conservatory that was added to enhance the cramped kitchen, allowing for more space for family mealtimes and sociable gatherings. 'It was difficult to fit five people around the table, so we knocked through an external kitchen window and built the conservatory onto the kitchen, that also linked to the sitting room. This created a marvellous

CHOCOLATE
CAKES

PICRA
HUILE
VIN ROUGE
TORD BOYAUX
MIRABELLE
NOLE
MARC DE PAYS
VINAIGRE

‘Initially I went wild with colour, but as time has passed I’ve created a neutral palette and added interest with antiques and art’

sense of space and natural light in the house, and it has been great for parties over the years, too!’

Today the house is a haven of Jane’s love of all things vintage and antique, with a seriously strong French influence, borne out of years of happy holidays spent on the continent, often with an extra, empty suitcase ready to pack with new-found treasures. And it is all beautifully curated against a backdrop of white and pale neutrals. Outside, the garden in summer provides the perfect contrast with a riot of colour, from pinks and purples to oranges and yellows, and planted with all her favourites. Jane loves nothing more than pottering among the flower beds and returning inside with bunches of home-grown cosmos, cornflowers, nigella, larkspur, sweet peas, roses and dahlias to display in her enviable collection of vintage confit jars, elegant Astier de Villatte vases, and rusty zinc pots, weathered with time and picked up for a song in the French brocantes. ‘My parents loved antique fairs and auctions, so it’s in the blood!’ she says. ‘I just enjoy collecting and displaying and mixing old and new art, ceramics and furniture. It is all about creating a comfortable home that can be lived in but enjoyed aesthetically at the same time.’ Amen to that!

KITCHEN

Simple in style, this boasts a rustic French feel with open shelving filled with pretty bistro-style ceramics and glassware and a smattering of vintage brocante finds. A rough-hewn wood butcher's block sits atop a vintage cupboard. Walls in Shadow White, Farrow & Ball. Tiles, Mosaic Factory. Find similar vintage crockery, pots and kitchenware, Goose Home and Garden. Antique butcher's block, Decorative Antiques. Vintage cupboard, Ardingly Antiques Fair. Ceramic bottles, eBay. Similar tableware, Ellei Home

MAIN BEDROOM

This space is calm and serene with rich yellow adding a burst of energy to the all-white scheme and complementing the warm wood tones in the table. Bed linen, Bedfolk. Lamp, Decorative Antiques. Similar mustard cushion, Andrew Martin

BATHROOM

A luxurious free-standing bathtub makes a strong design statement. Louvred shutters, old French signage, a wall cabinet and apothecary jars add vintage charm. Bath and taps, Burlington Bathrooms. Jars and shells, Nook Antiques. Similar glass fronted wall cabinet, Ardingly Antiques Fair

BAINS
DOUCHES

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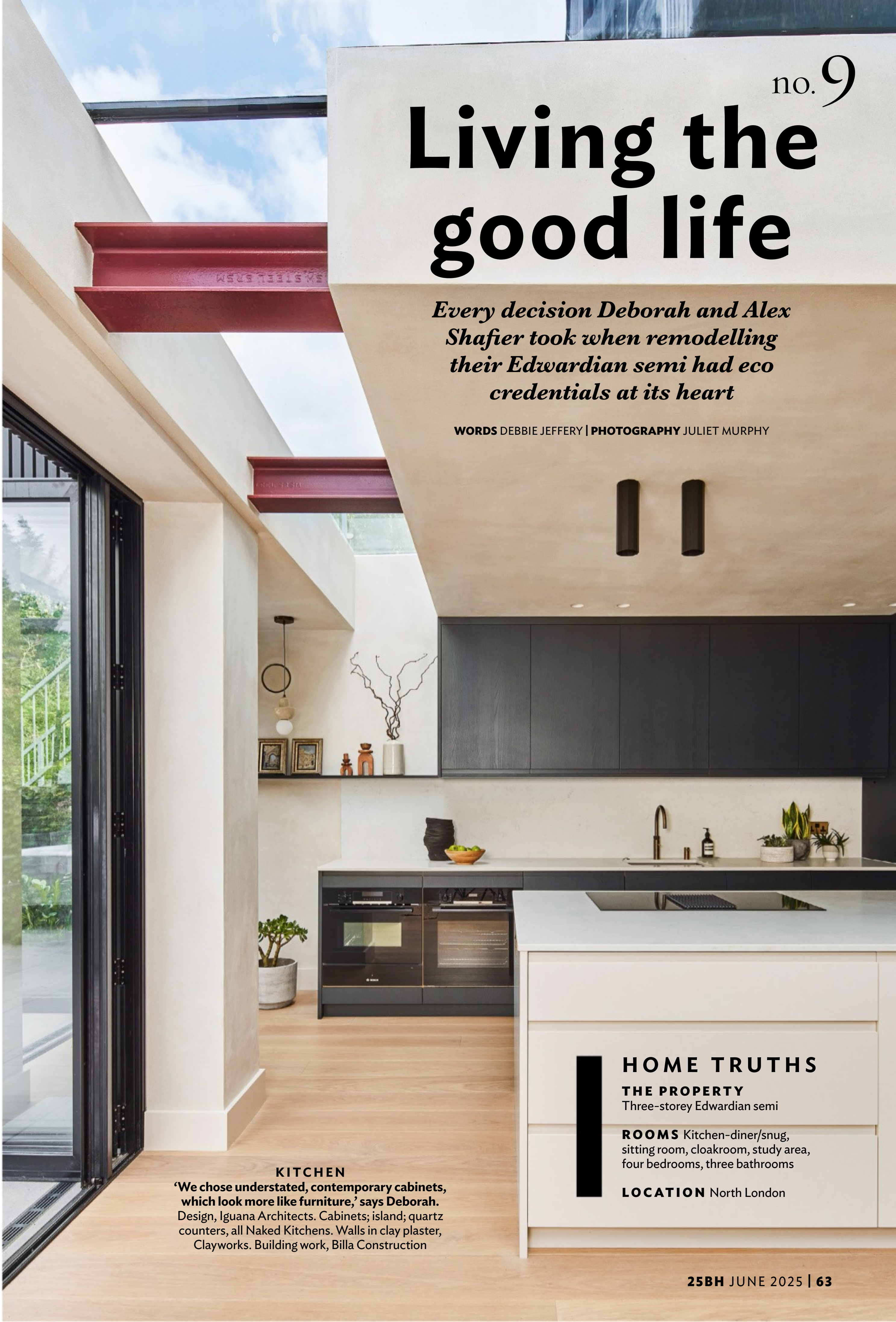


no.9

Living the good life

Every decision Deborah and Alex Shafier took when remodelling their Edwardian semi had eco credentials at its heart

WORDS DEBBIE JEFFERY | **PHOTOGRAPHY** JULIET MURPHY

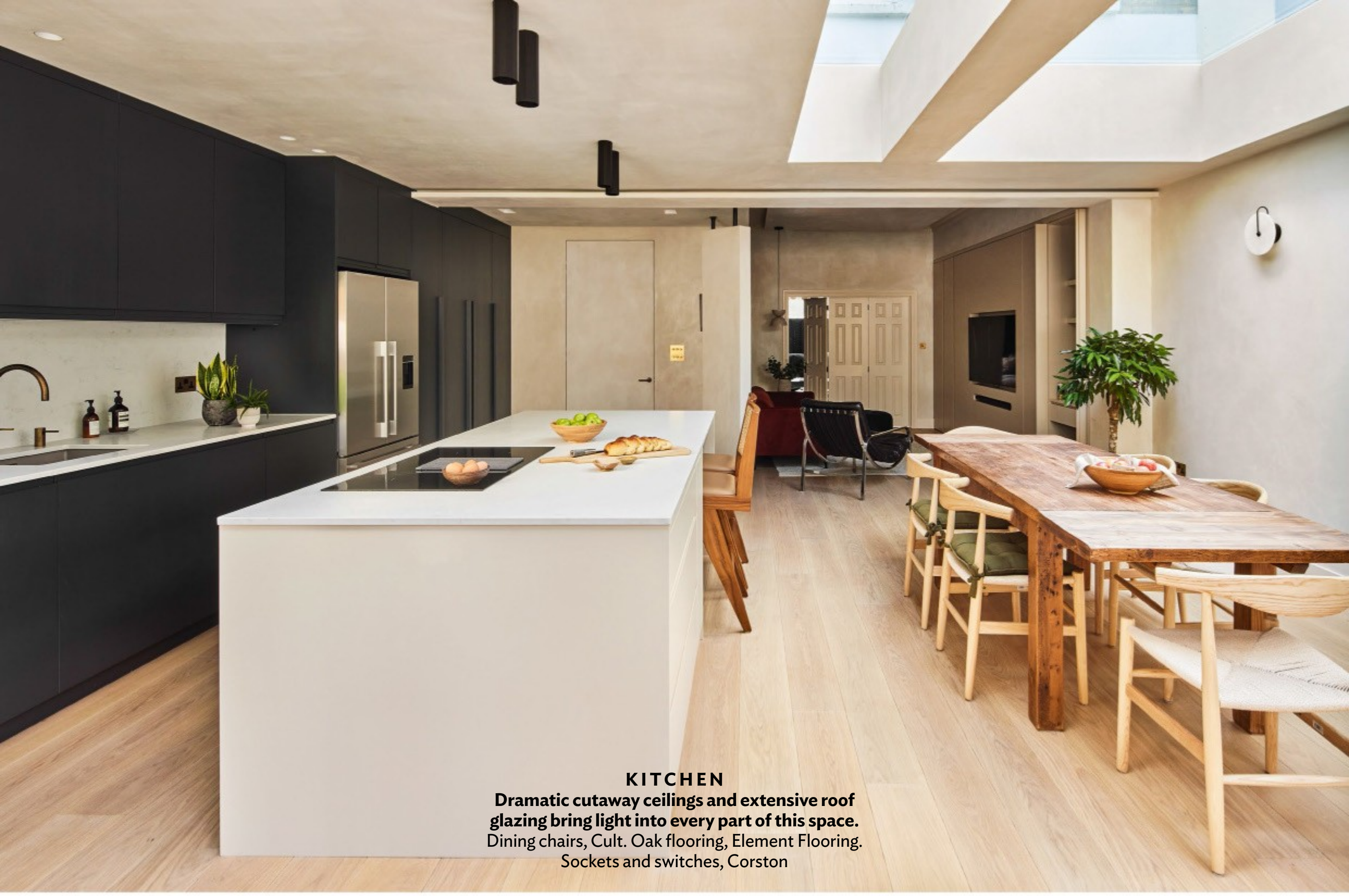
KITCHEN
'We chose understated, contemporary cabinets, which look more like furniture,' says Deborah. Design, Iguana Architects. Cabinets; island; quartz counters, all Naked Kitchens. Walls in clay plaster, Clayworks. Building work, Billa Construction

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY
Three-storey Edwardian semi

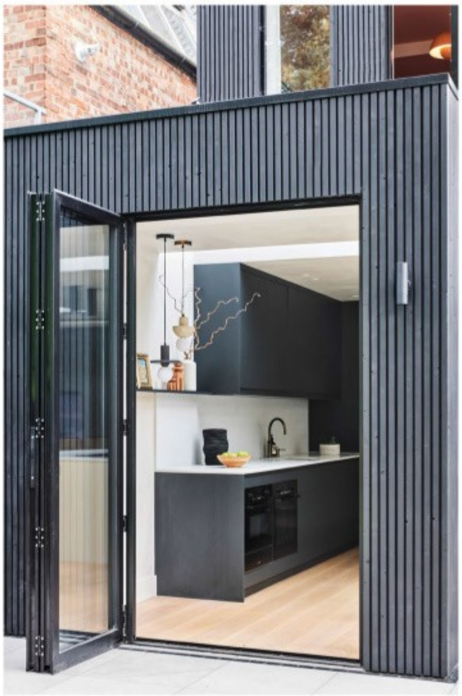
ROOMS Kitchen-diner/snug, sitting room, cloakroom, study area, four bedrooms, three bathrooms

LOCATION North London



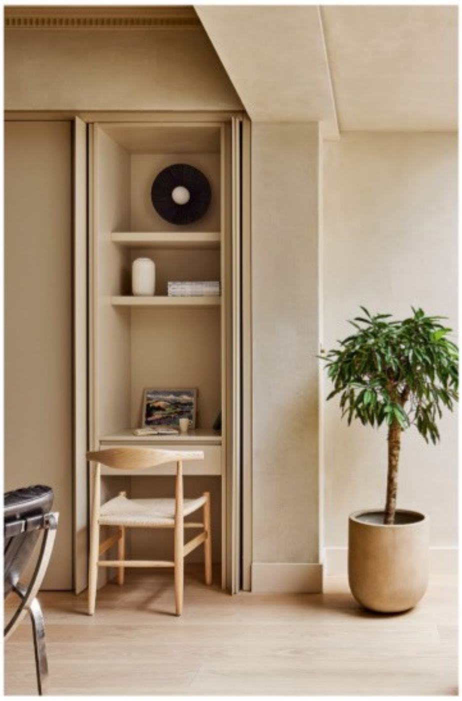
KITCHEN

Dramatic cutaway ceilings and extensive roof glazing bring light into every part of this space. Dining chairs, Cult. Oak flooring, Element Flooring. Sockets and switches, Corston



EXTERIOR

Tongue and groove panelling gives a crisp, contemporary finish. The couple used recyclable timber and cork render to provide natural insulation and reduce energy usage. Exterior cladding, Lunawood



STUDY SPACE

Creating a recessed home office nook behind pocket doors means the children can do their homework in the main living area. Plaster coving, Stevensons of Norwich. Plant pot, West Elm. Study nook light, Made

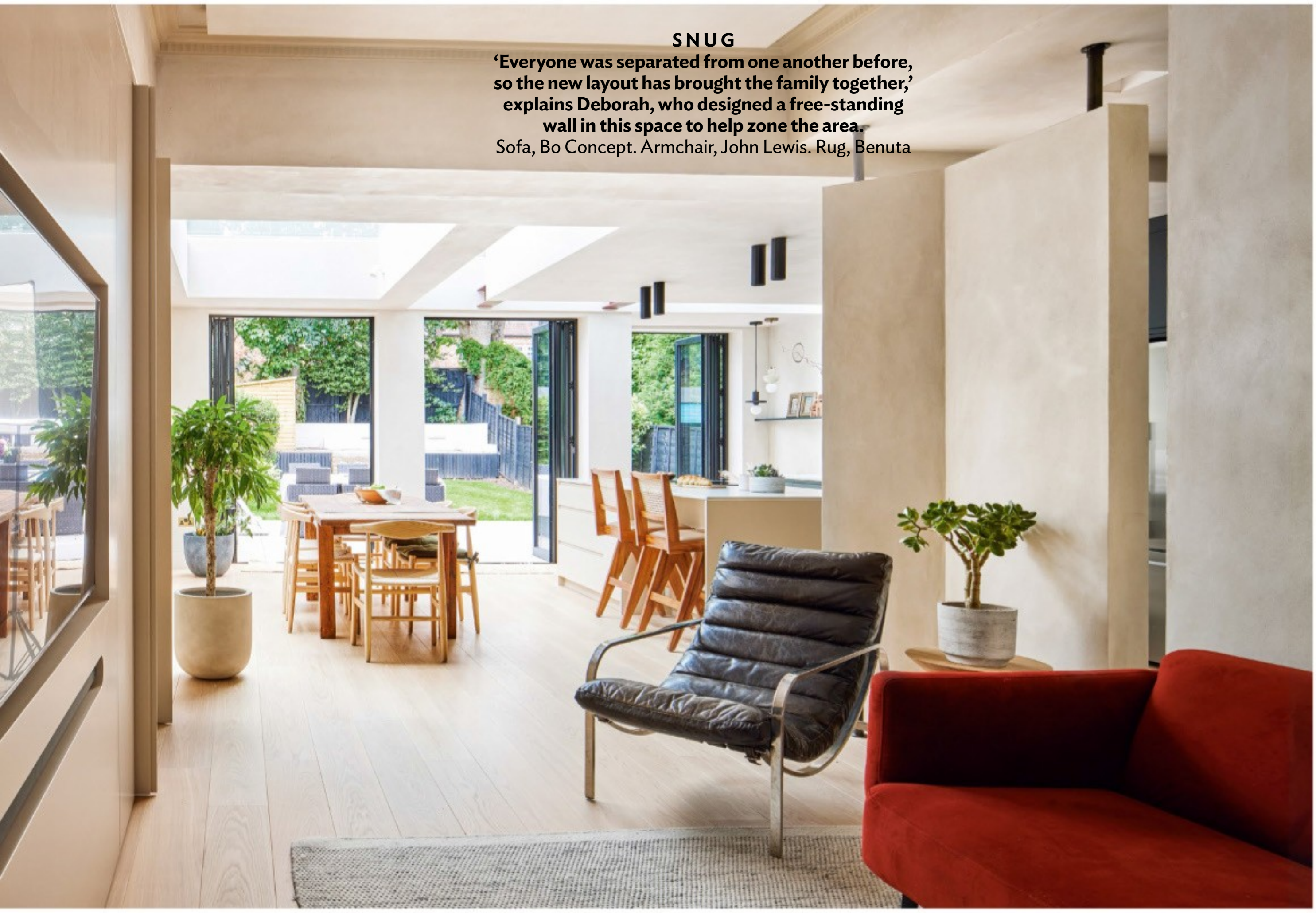
After four years spent living in their dark, draughty, disjointed Edwardian terrace, Deborah and Alex Shafier made plans to remodel the house and create a functional eco home for their family. 'The space wasn't working and the challenge was to open up the layout, bringing light into every room,' says Deborah, an interior designer with Iguana Architects, which specialises in connecting homes to nature using biophilic design. Deborah worked closely with her colleague Lara Abou Fadel to develop the layout of the home, alongside the natural and understated style.

The architectural practice secured planning permission for their contemporary proposal and a building company was employed to complete the work while the family decamped to live with Deborah's parents. Demolishing the leaky conservatory and building a double-storey rear extension, clad in striking black slatted timber, adds a modern twist to the classic Edwardian brickwork, while glass doors and roof lights fill the interiors with an abundance of natural light.

An open-plan kitchen-diner/snug now gives the family the space they craved for entertaining. 'We regularly cook for 12 or more on a Friday evening,' says Deborah, who drew together natural products to fill the house with warm, earthy textures. Recyclable, repairable clay plaster to walls in the living space helps to regulate indoor humidity levels and eliminates the toxic VOC emissions often found in paints.

'It's now a low-carbon footprint home,' explains Deborah. 'Externally, we used recyclable timber

> 'Natural clay plaster on the walls adds real depth and texture to the main living space'



SNUG

'Everyone was separated from one another before, so the new layout has brought the family together,' explains Deborah, who designed a free-standing wall in this space to help zone the area.

Sofa, Bo Concept. Armchair, John Lewis. Rug, Benuta cladding and cork render, which provide natural insulation and reduce energy usage. We also prioritised upcycling, opting to reuse the internal doors and fireplace, while selecting locally sourced materials and suppliers with eco credentials.'

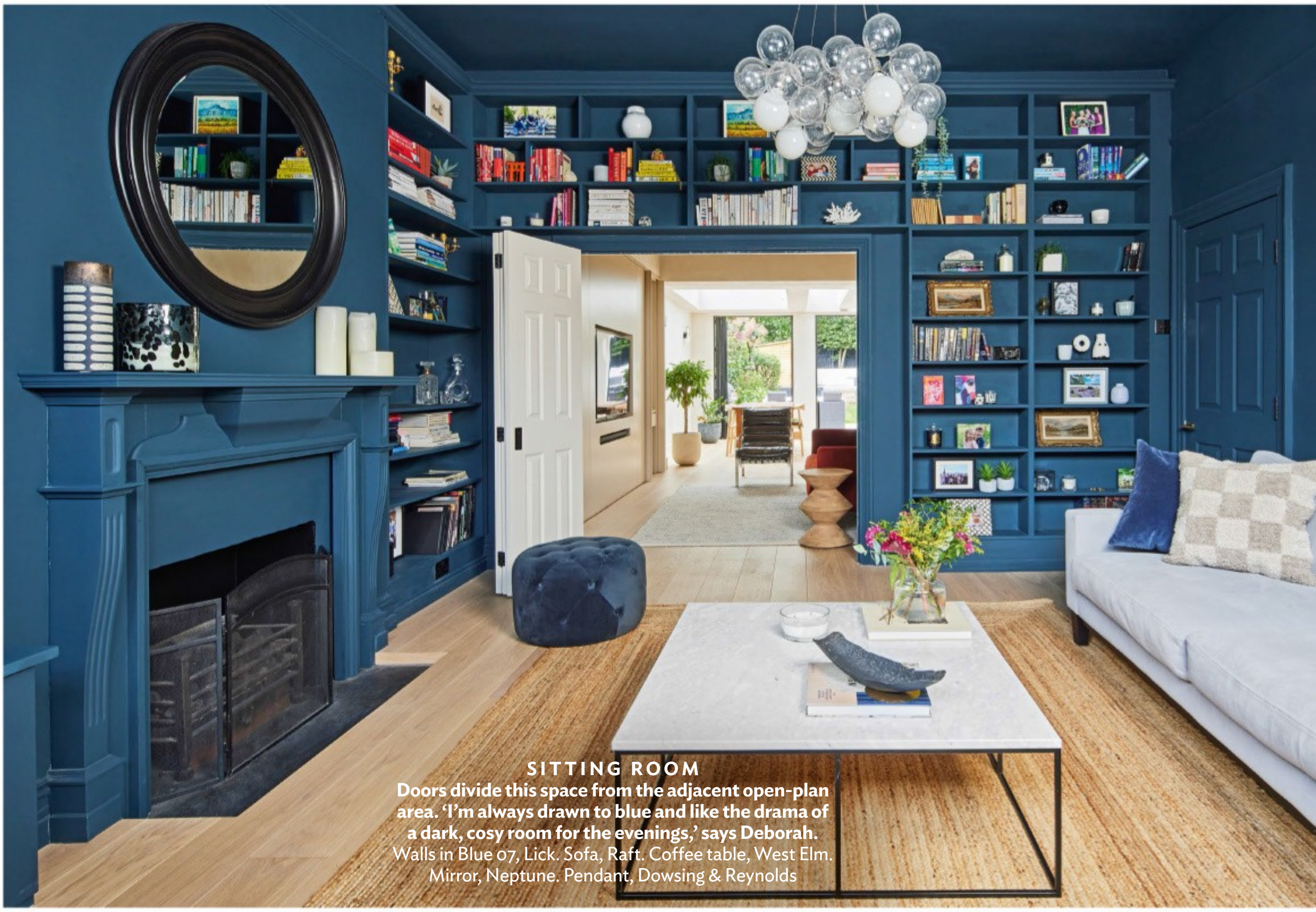
The couple have two children – Levi, nine, and Lila, six – and storage was key to Deborah's design. Once the building work was completed, cupboards, shelving and clever solutions could be added. 'We love modern design but didn't want it to be impractical or feel clinical,' says Deborah. 'Beautiful joinery conceals all of life's clutter.'

A compact study area can be closed off behind doors in the living area/kitchen, with a wall of cupboards for storing games and toys. It's now easy to tidy everything away to create a calm sanctuary. A dramatic adult sitting room can also be separated from the rest of the ground floor with doors. Upstairs was all about optimising space. 'We were bedroom heavy but bathroom poor, so turned the box room into a larger room for our daughter, creating a brand new family bathroom and converting the previous bathroom into an en suite,' says Deborah.

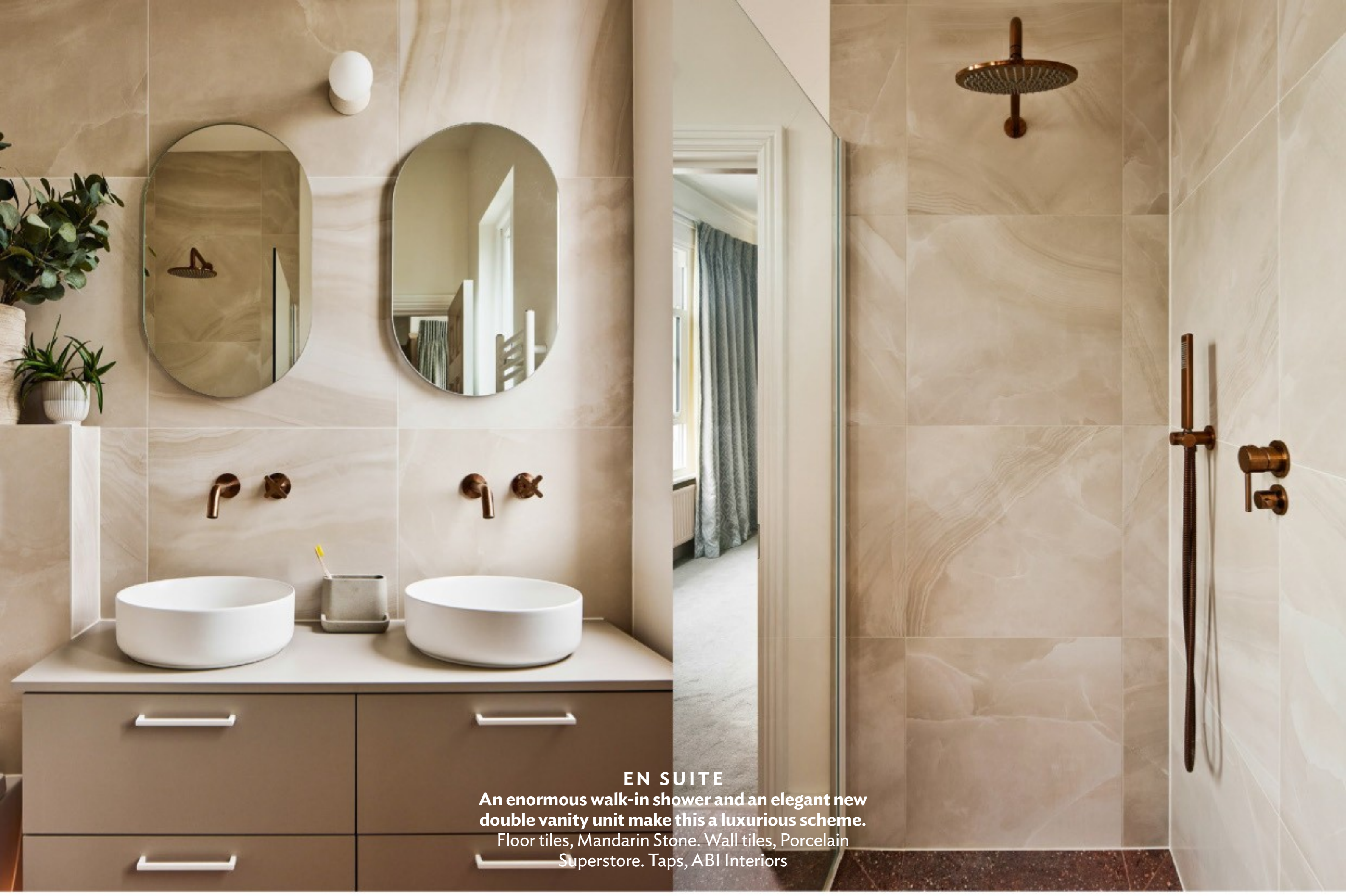
Completed in 2023, the house now offers the family a relaxing retreat, with the couple still planning more finishing touches. 'We'll be installing a green roof on the ground floor extension, which will provide a habitat for plants and insects,' says Deborah. 'We're also replacing furniture and adding decorative items as we find things we love that suit the space. There's no rush, though – we plan to stay here for many years to come.'

iguana-architects.com

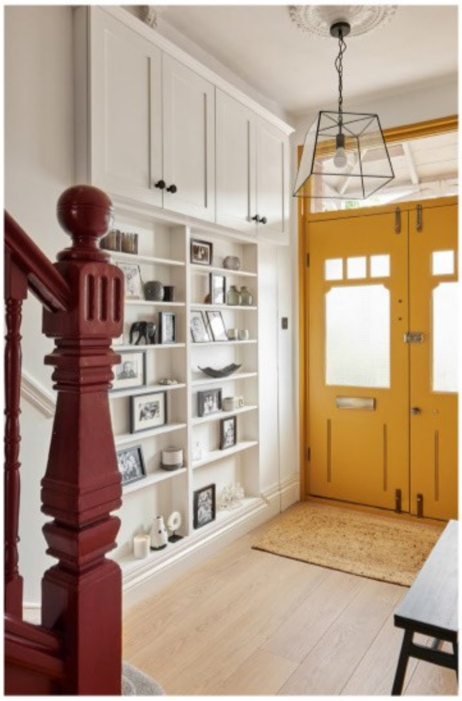
> 'We haven't finished yet – we'll be installing a green roof on the extension, which will be a habitat for insects'



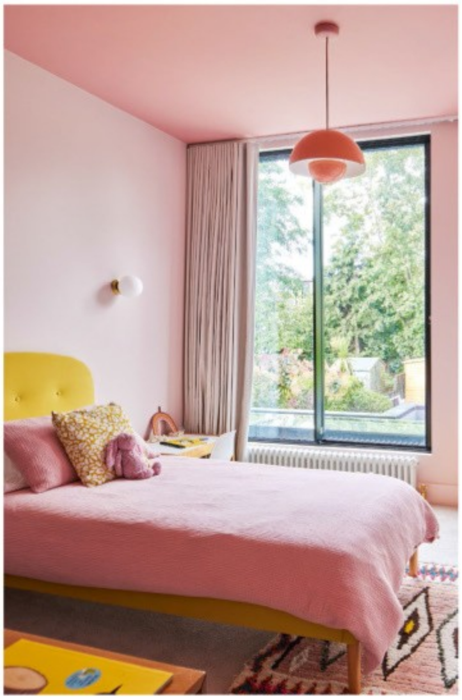
SITTING ROOM
Doors divide this space from the adjacent open-plan area. 'I'm always drawn to blue and like the drama of a dark, cosy room for the evenings,' says Deborah.
Walls in Blue 07, Lick. Sofa, Raft. Coffee table, West Elm. Mirror, Neptune. Pendant, Dowsing & Reynolds



EN SUITE
An enormous walk-in shower and an elegant new double vanity unit make this a luxurious scheme.
Floor tiles, Mandarin Stone. Wall tiles, Porcelain Superstore. Taps, ABI Interiors



HALLWAY
The original staircase has been restored, with new built-in storage for coats, a concealed utility cupboard for laundry and a drying area.
Glass pendant light, The White Company. Bench, Zara Home



LILA'S BEDROOM
A rear extension has turned a former box room into a bright space. 'It was a challenge finding a radiator to fit below the window,' says Deborah.
Bed, M&S. Radiator, Best Heating. Flowerpot pendant light, &Tradition

MODERN *country*

Lorraine and William Kent's bungalow, which they originally built twenty years ago, has been given a new lease of life with a very contemporary look

WORDS ALEXANDRA PRATT | **PHOTOGRAPHY** LYNDA KENNY

KITCHEN

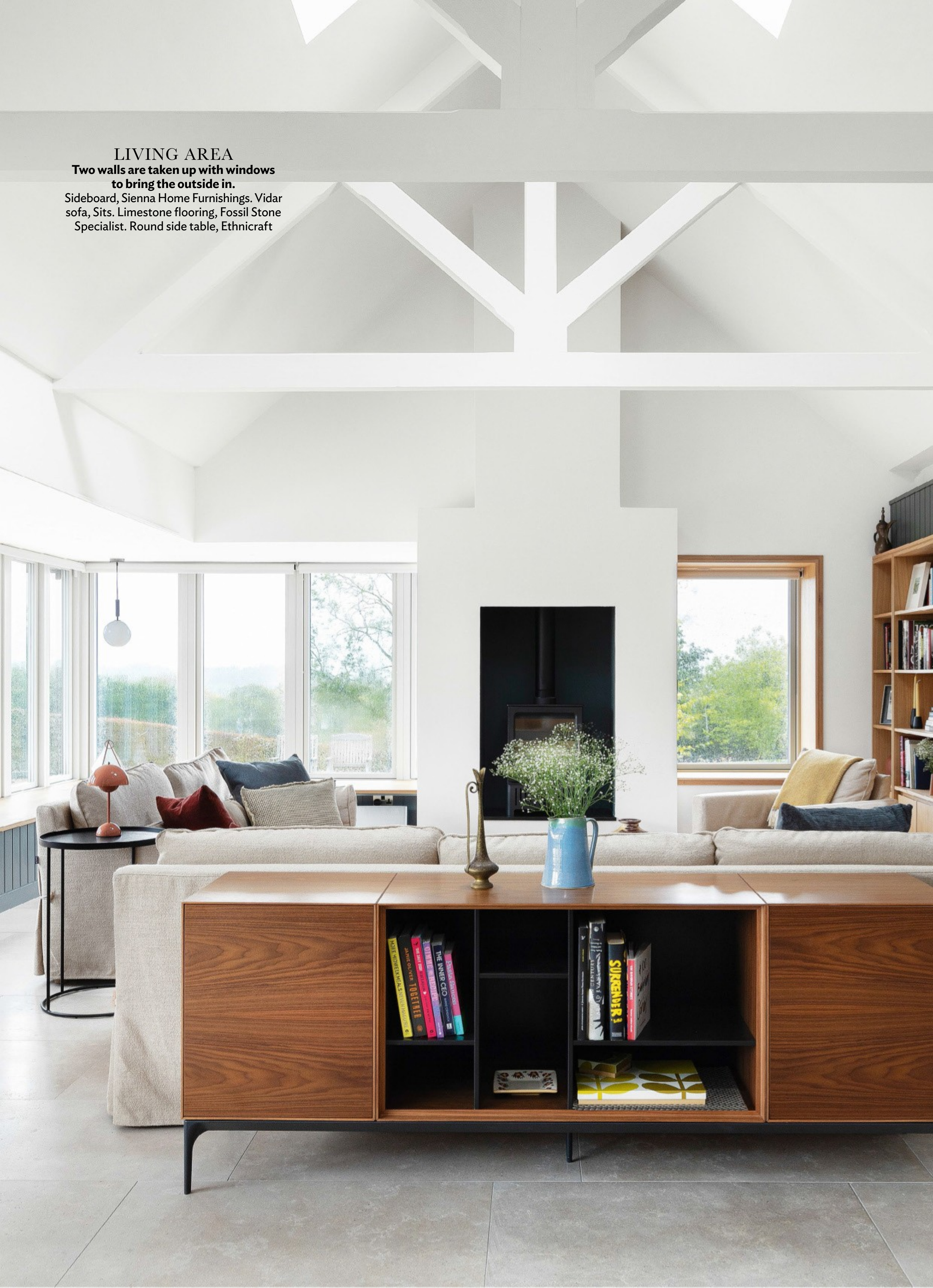
'There's nothing better than having people gathered around the island when you're preparing dinner,' says Lorraine. Kitchen designed and supplied by Michael Farrell Furniture. Linda bar stools, Bontempi Casa. Worktop, Wells Granite & Marble

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY
Detached self-built bungalow

ROOMS Kitchen-diner/living area, snug, bar, cloakroom, four bedrooms, three bathrooms

LOCATION Ireland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LIVING AREA

Two walls are taken up with windows to bring the outside in. Sideboard, Sienna Home Furnishings. Vidar sofa, Sits. Limestone flooring, Fossil Stone Specialist. Round side table, Ethnicraft

Lorraine and William built their home in 2002, seduced by the lush countryside of County Kilkenny and easy access into Dublin. Yet 20 years later, with busy careers and two sports-mad boys, this barn-style house wasn't scoring any goals for style or practicality.

'We got to understand our home and how we wanted to live during the Covid crisis,' says Lorraine. 'The comfort level and energy efficiency weren't there, so we felt the time was right for something more modern.'

Knowing what they wanted but unsure how to bring it together, Lorraine and William engaged architect Ciaran Devine, who partnered with interior designer Karina Heaslip, with a brief to transform their dated self-build into a timeless country home. 'Karina was great,' says Lorraine, who works in the construction industry. 'The key was that she spent time getting to know us and understand what we wanted.'

With the house stripped back, Lorraine and William dealt with fundamentals, including adding underfloor heating run off an air-to-water system. Additional warmth comes from the sun that streams through new glazed doors to the terrace from the kitchen. This had previously been tucked into a dark, windowless corner of the open-plan living space, a room that managed to feel small, despite the vaulted ceiling. Now, this small glazed extension creates 'a bright and airy space, with passive solar gain from the south-facing windows, access to the terrace and wonderful countryside views,' says Karina. Lorraine was also impressed at Karina's suggestion to paint the natural timber beams white in the open-plan space, which creates a feeling of space and airiness.

> 'The lofty living area is grounded by the beautiful joinery and other wooden pieces'

LIVING AREA

Although the open-plan space is large, careful zoning using furniture and colour means the sitting room still feels cosy, without being separate. Panelling in Squid Ink, Paint & Paper Library. For a similar armchair, try Neptune

ATTIC SNUG

Lorraine loves that her home now has entertainment space and rooms that allow for quiet time. Green armchairs, Tetrad. Flooring, Bearfoot. For a similar rug, try Etsy

DINING AREA

The panelling zones the space and contrasts nicely against this pale oak dining table, which is large enough for the whole family plus a few friends. Mikado oval oak dining table; Bok chairs in Oak, all Ethnicraft. Pendant, Wink Lighting

This is the key room for the family, who love cooking and entertaining. And for Lorraine, the kitchen, with its oak cabinetry and stone-topped island, is the standout feature of the renovation. The kitchen storage area is now zoned within the open-plan space by tongue and groove panelling, painted in Paint & Paper Library's Squid Ink.

'The same style of panelling continues into the hallway and the bedroom,' says Karina, 'which ties it all together.' Lorraine agrees: 'There's a thread running through the whole design that makes everything easy on the eye and I feel that it's just "us".'

The couple also decided to move the staircase to the attic (now a snug) from a bedroom to the entrance hall. Lorraine was keen for the new stairs not to dominate the entrance, so they are partly concealed by a slatted wall, which creates interest and allows light to filter through. This is because Lorraine's style is 'practical, with natural materials, nothing shiny and with a softness,' she explains. Karina laughs: 'We had a running joke about nothing being shiny!'

With a largely neutral palette, the interiors are lifted and knitted together by some strong yet sympathetic colours. These are mainly blues and greens, which reflect the country setting. Lorraine admits to some doubts, 'The olive green in the hallway and the pink in the cloakroom were a little outside our comfort zone initially, but we love the colours now.'

With the house updated and remodelled to match how they live today, their home feels like a sanctuary. 'It has everything we want; entertainment space, rooms that allow for quiet time, bedrooms that are so comfortable. We just love being at home!'

karinaheaslip.com

'Olive green was used throughout as an accent colour – it feels modern yet also suits a country house'

BATHROOM

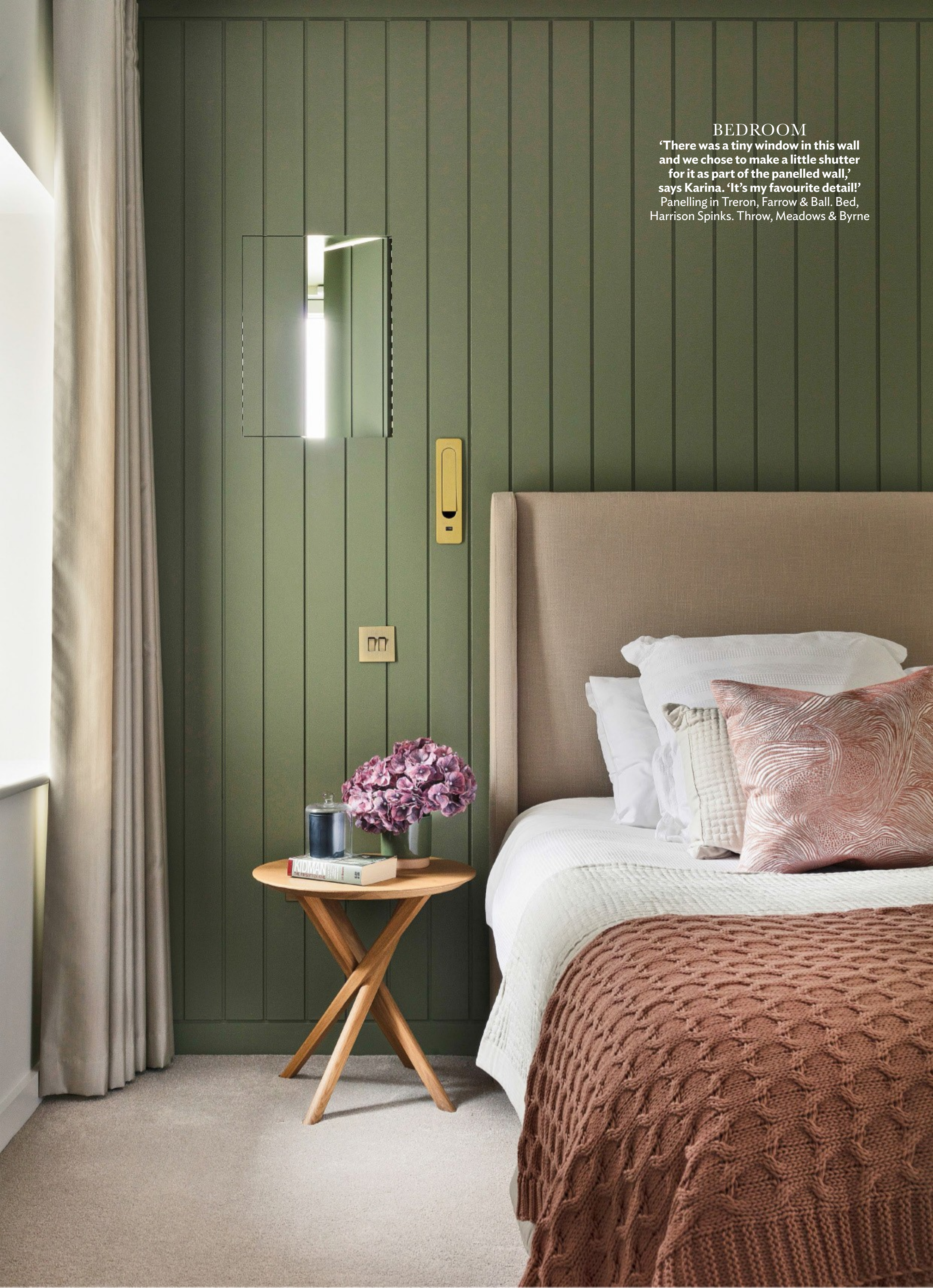
The family bathroom has plenty of space and practical fittings.
Tiles, Delforno Tiles & Timber. Bespoke cabinetry, Geraghty Joinery. Similar Havana vanity unit, Heat & Plumb. Lighting, Mullan Lighting

HALLWAY

The cool white slats prevent the staircase from dominating the entrance, but allow light to filter onto the oak staircase.
Far wall in Olive Colour, Little Greene. For a similar plant pot try Dunelm

STUDY AREA

A private study area off the main suite is built in, making it both practical and smart.
Stool, Ethnicraft at Sienna Home Furnishings. Wall light, Hicken Lighting. For a similar basket try H&M Home



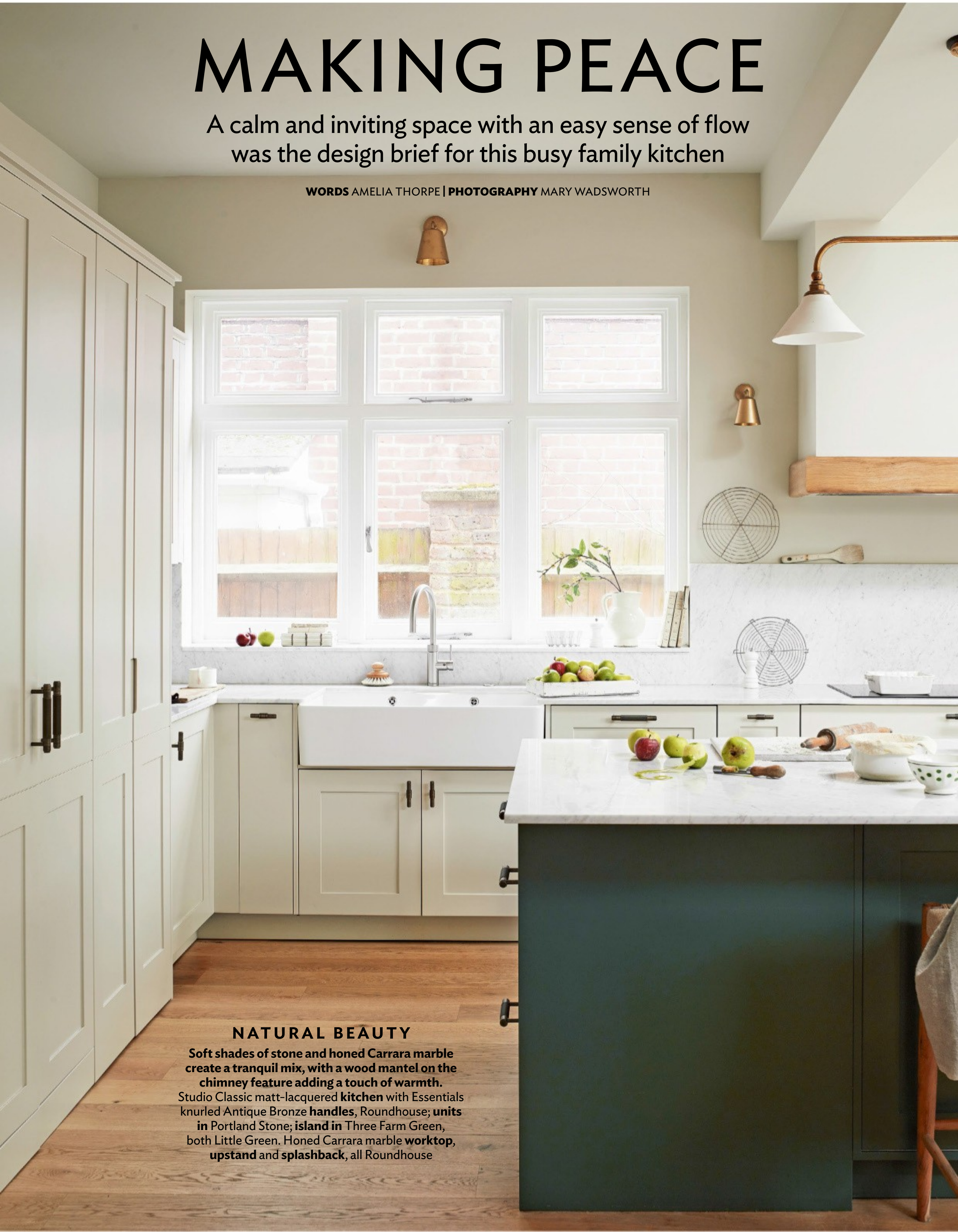
BEDROOM

'There was a tiny window in this wall and we chose to make a little shutter for it as part of the panelled wall,' says Karina. 'It's my favourite detail!' Panelling in Treron, Farrow & Ball. Bed, Harrison Spinks. Throw, Meadows & Byrne

MAKING PEACE

A calm and inviting space with an easy sense of flow was the design brief for this busy family kitchen

WORDS AMELIA THORPE | **PHOTOGRAPHY** MARY WADSWORTH



NATURAL BEAUTY

Soft shades of stone and honed Carrara marble create a tranquil mix, with a wood mantel on the chimney feature adding a touch of warmth. Studio Classic matt-lacquered **kitchen** with Essentials knurled Antique Bronze **handles**, Roundhouse; **units in** Portland Stone; **island in** Three Farm Green, both Little Green. Honed Carrara marble **worktop**, **upstand** and **splashback**, all Roundhouse

no. II

PROJECT DETAILS

DESIGNER
Jane Powell,
senior designer,
Roundhouse
(roundhouse
design.com)

PROPERTY
Edwardian house

WORK
New kitchen
installation

LOCATION
Southwest
London

One of the reasons Phoebe and Ryan bought their house was the lofty height of the kitchen. What was less appealing, however, was the layout, since a walk-in pantry was built in the middle of the room. The couple decided to redesign the room and asked Roundhouse to help.

1 PROJECT BEGINNINGS

With their three young sons in mind – Adrian, seven, Dougie, four, and Craig, two – and as part of a major renovation project to update the entire house – Phoebe and Ryan decided to reconfigure the room by removing the walk-in pantry and an internal wall between the kitchen and adjacent family room. 'This created a big open-plan L-shaped space for cooking and eating, with room for the boys to play where I can keep an eye on them,' says Phoebe.

2 CREATING THE LAYOUT

Following up on a neighbour's recommendation, the couple contacted senior designer Jane Powell at Roundhouse to design the new kitchen. 'We chose classic cabinetry that blended the styles of the houses we grew up in – Ryan in South Africa, me in America – together with the age of this property,' says Phoebe. An L-shaped run of units houses built-in appliances and offers storage space and a wet zone, while a central island forms the hub of the room. 'We deliberately kept the island counter free of hob and sink to maximise space for prepping and entertaining,' she explains. 'My four-year-old loves baking and it's great to be able to spread out the ingredients and sprinkles, as it is for when the boys want to do their crafts and puzzles.'

3 SECRET SURPRISE

To provide a speedy connection between the kitchen and utility room behind, Roundhouse constructed pocket doors in the run of tall cupboards. 'We call them the Narnia doors, because they open to reveal a hidden space,' says Phoebe. When open, the doors retract into side pockets to provide unobstructed access to the extra storage, sink and laundry equipment in the utility area behind.

4 COLOUR PALETTE

The couple chose a subtle stone shade for the wall furniture, teaming it with a bold accent for the island. 'The deep green is perfect for the centrepiece of the room, reflecting the colours of the garden,' says Phoebe. 'The result is such a peaceful, happy space.'

PRACTICAL LAYOUT

With the new design no space is wasted: in front of the stools, shallow-depth cupboards offer storage for less frequently used items, while double pocket doors front the secret entrance to the utility room. The chimney hood was also designed to add character to the room and conceal a built-in extractor. Oven with microwave function; oven with steam oven; induction hob; fully integrated **dishwasher**, all Siemens. Prime built-in **extractor**, Westin. French door **fridge freezer**, Fisher & Paykel. Flex **boiling water 3-in-1 tap** in Stainless Steel, Quooker. Farmhouse double bowl ceramic **sink**, Villeroy & Boch. Evolution 150 **waste disposal unit**, InSinkErator. Oak **flooring**, The Natural Wood Floor Co. The Heirloom Gaselier pendant **light**, deVOL. Richmond **wall lights**, Corston. Similar **bar chairs**, Zara Home. **Architecture**, Michael Jones Architects. **Construction**, Dream House Design

'THE ROOF LIGHT NOT ONLY LETS LIGHT IN FROM ABOVE BUT ITS UNUSUAL SHAPE IS A STUNNING DESIGN FEATURE'

TOP TIP
Natural colours and materials help to soften the kitchen's hard lines and connect the space to the garden

Highland FLING

Architect Susie Whyte and her husband John Burke turned a derelict prefab bungalow into a beautiful retreat in the Scottish Highlands

WORDS EMMA LEASK | **PHOTOGRAPHY** RUTH MARIA MURPHY

no. 12

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY Detached cedar-clad lodge built in the 1950s

ROOMS Sitting room, kitchen-dining room, utility room, four bedrooms, four bathrooms

LOCATION Perthshire

EXTERIOR
The rustic, cedar-clad lodge sits in two hectares of land, with its own wildflower meadow and surrounded by hills and ancient trees.
Light Bronze matt aluminium doors and windows, Schüco

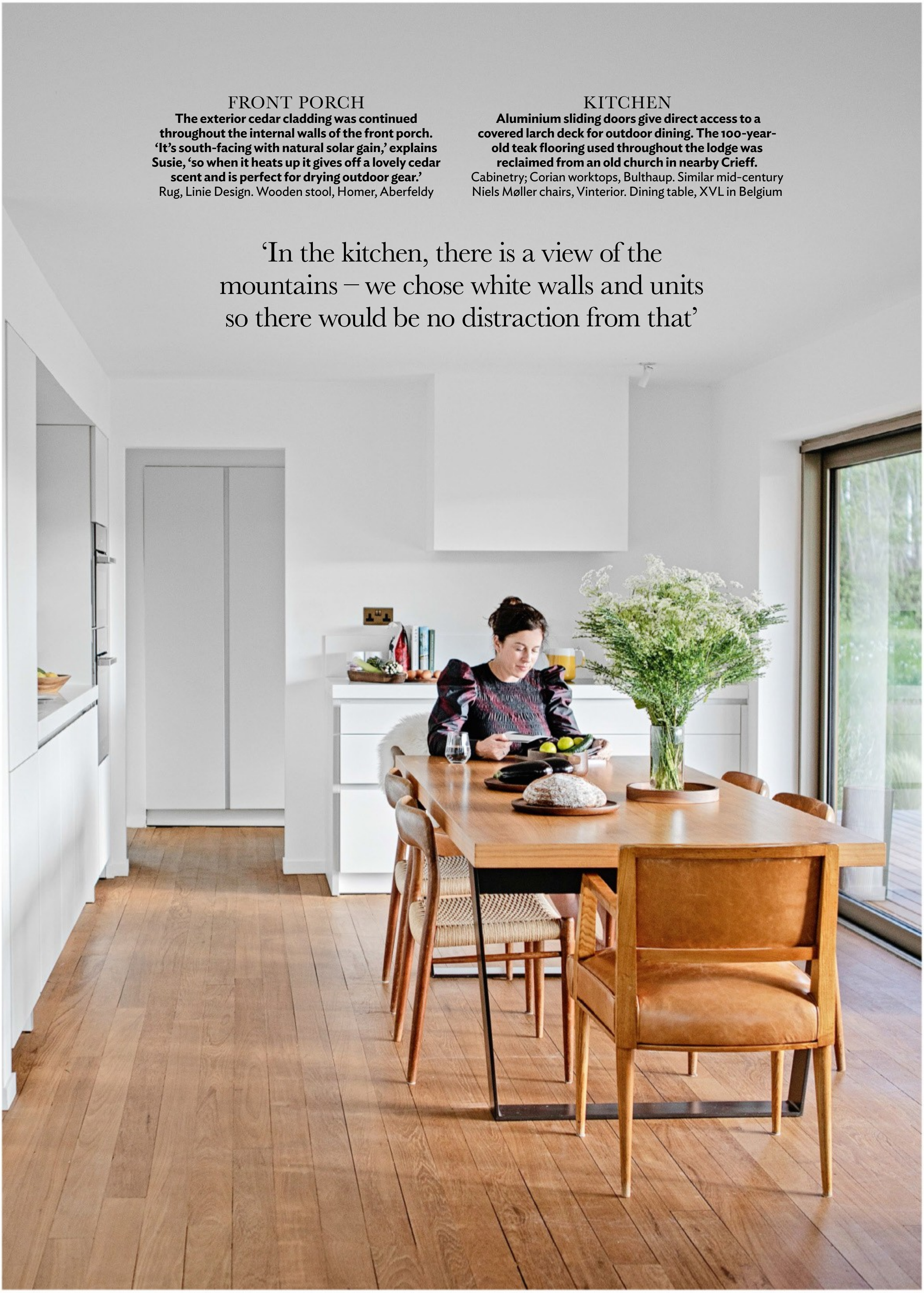
FRONT PORCH

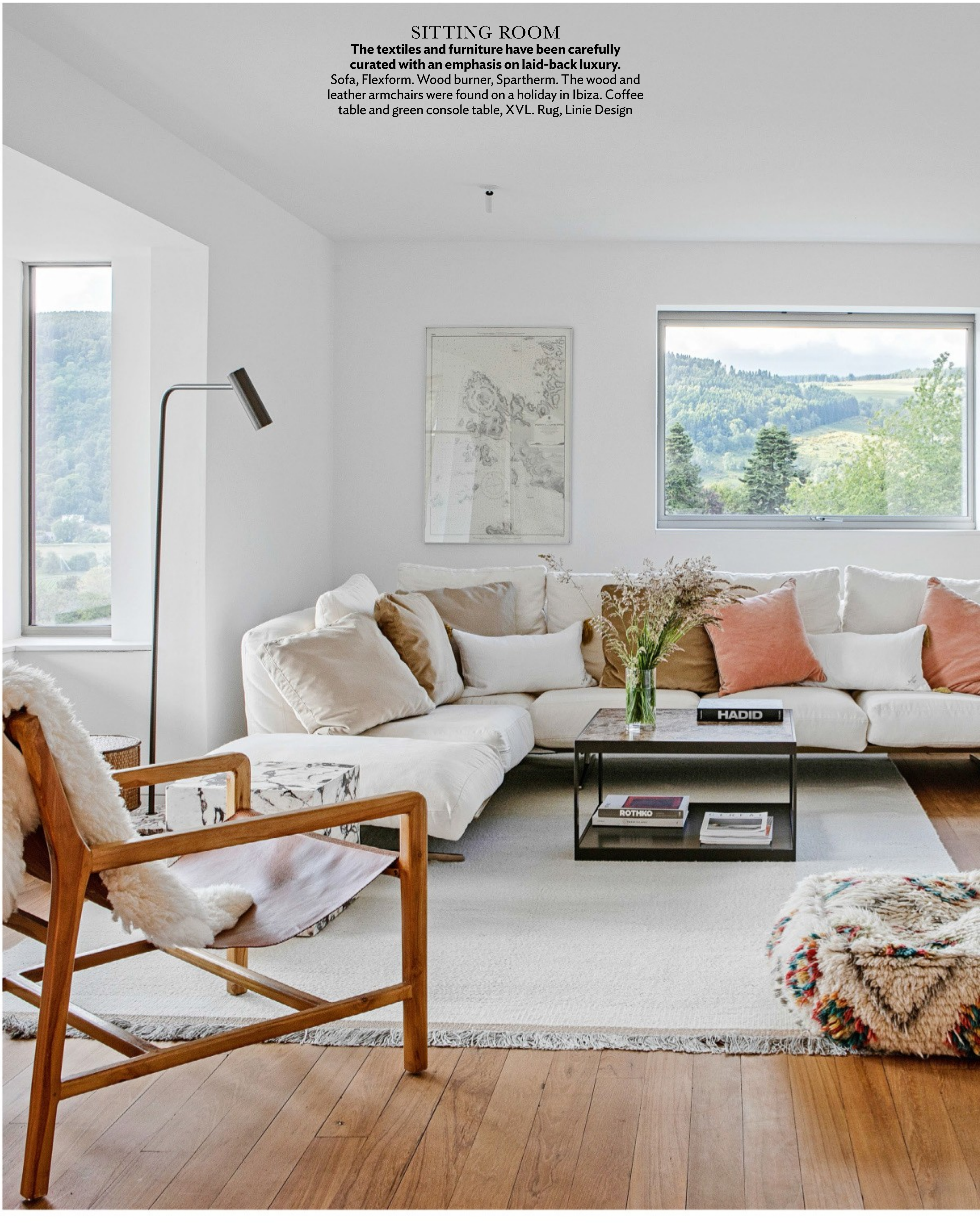
The exterior cedar cladding was continued throughout the internal walls of the front porch. 'It's south-facing with natural solar gain,' explains Susie, 'so when it heats up it gives off a lovely cedar scent and is perfect for drying outdoor gear.' Rug, Linie Design. Wooden stool, Homer, Aberfeldy

KITCHEN

Aluminium sliding doors give direct access to a covered larch deck for outdoor dining. The 100-year-old teak flooring used throughout the lodge was reclaimed from an old church in nearby Crieff. Cabinetry; Corian worktops, Bulthaup. Similar mid-century Niels Møller chairs, Vinterior. Dining table, XVL in Belgium

> 'In the kitchen, there is a view of the mountains – we chose white walls and units so there would be no distraction from that'





SITTING ROOM

The textiles and furniture have been carefully curated with an emphasis on laid-back luxury.
Sofa, Flexform. Wood burner, Spartherm. The wood and leather armchairs were found on a holiday in Ibiza. Coffee table and green console table, XVL. Rug, Linie Design

After 15 years spent working in architectural practices in San Francisco and New York, architect and designer Susie Whyte was influenced by American-style decks and porches. When the chance to buy Dun Aluinn estate, a Victorian country manor with a 1950s caretaker's cottage in Highland Perthshire came up, Susie and husband John Burke leapt at the opportunity to create something unique.

Serial renovators John and Susie bought the estate to be close to John's son, Ruairi, who was living nearby and to create a retreat to spend time with extended family. 'The lodge was a post-war prefab bungalow in poor condition,' says John. 'During lockdown it was broken into by local kids who bashed it up a bit so we had to renovate quickly.'

Susie had a clear vision. 'I wanted to create a cedar-clad rustic homestead with a large covered deck that connected to nature and the incredible views of the hills and Tay Valley,' she says. 'The idea was that the deck would anchor the building in the landscape and connect it to its surroundings. We love nature and deliberately kept the garden quite wild by planting a wildflower meadow around the house – it's a kaleidoscope of colour in summer.'

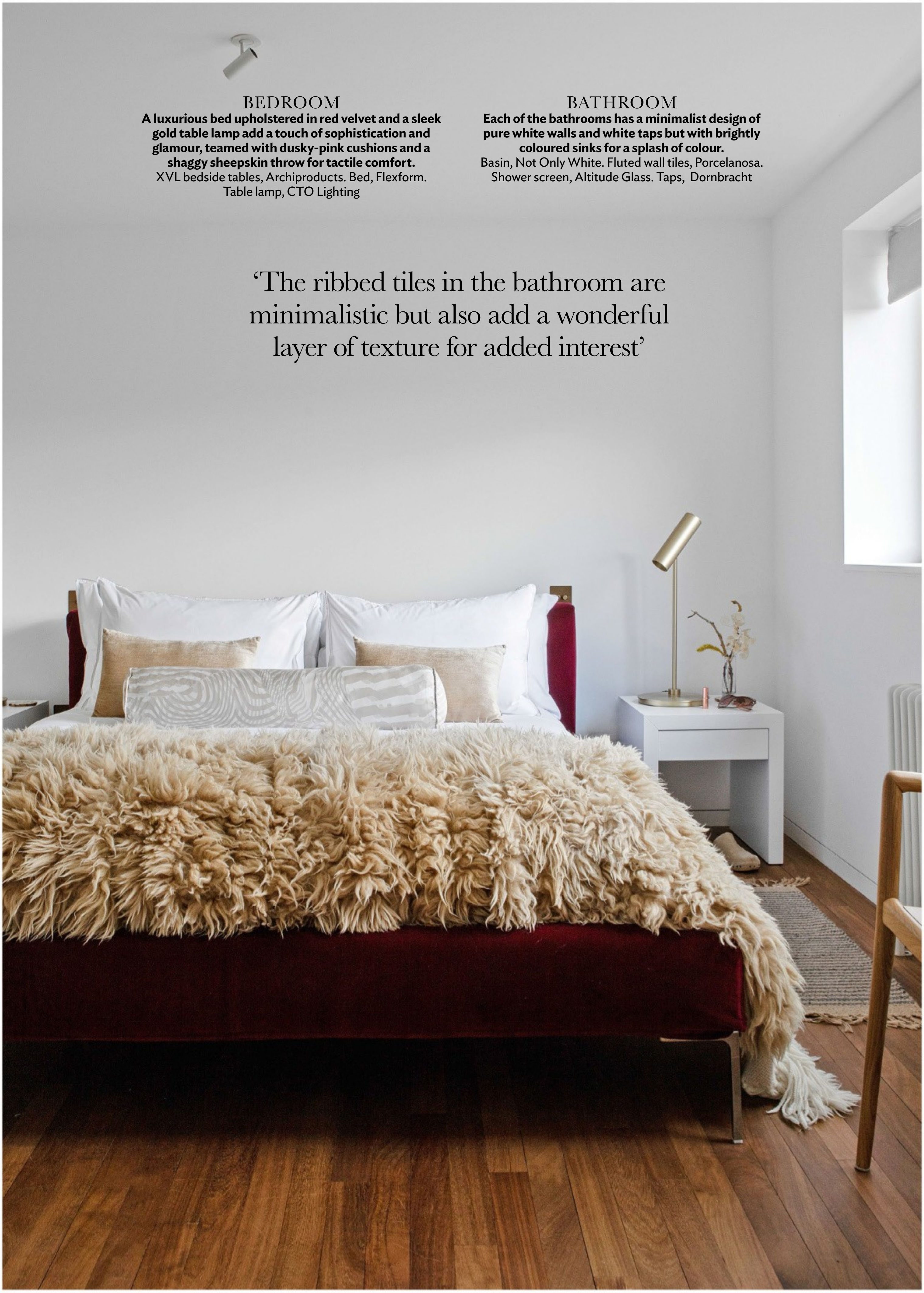
The interior is calm, contemporary and uncluttered with muted colours and pure white walls throughout. Carefully curated furniture and textiles were brought back from the couple's travels, including chairs and throws from Portugal and Ibiza. 'The idea was to create a calm but cosy feeling,' says Susie, whose laid-back style includes sheepskin rugs and shaggy throws slung across chairs for texture.

The lodge's four en-suite bathrooms are inspired by Stanley Kubrick's iconic film *2001: A Space Odyssey* to help reference the era of the original bungalow. Deceptively simple, yet carefully detailed, all bathrooms feature minimalist stark white walls, white tiles and white taps with high-impact designer sinks providing a bold pop of colour. 'We wanted some unique pieces that would not be seen anywhere else,' explains John, who lets out the lodge, along with the manor house, as a luxury retreat for a limited number of weeks a year. Susie's work as an architect sees the couple regularly travelling to architecture and design shows across Europe, meeting unique suppliers. At a Paris show, they met Dutch designer Marike Andeweg and fell in love with a striking bespoke peach and pink bathroom sink. 'Marike wanted to keep the basin for herself, but we managed to persuade her to part with it,' says Susie. It's the only one in existence.

The renovation had a slow start due to the Covid restrictions, then a dramatic finish. 'We had a hard deadline to finish, ready for our first guest who happened to be Sir Chris Hoy and a group of cyclists,' says John. 'I was working on site every day for the last three weeks, Susie was screwing beds together at the last minute trying to get it ready on time. It was quite stressful.'

Now the work is finished, it's all about relaxing. 'When we're at the lodge, there's such a calm feeling of being in nature,' says John. Susie adds: 'We love to sit on the deck's swing chair, with a glass of wine, watching the sun set across the valley. It's a really special place.' 25

dunaluinn.com



BEDROOM

A luxurious bed upholstered in red velvet and a sleek gold table lamp add a touch of sophistication and glamour, teamed with dusky-pink cushions and a shaggy sheepskin throw for tactile comfort.
XVL bedside tables, Archiproducts. Bed, Flexform. Table lamp, CTO Lighting

BATHROOM

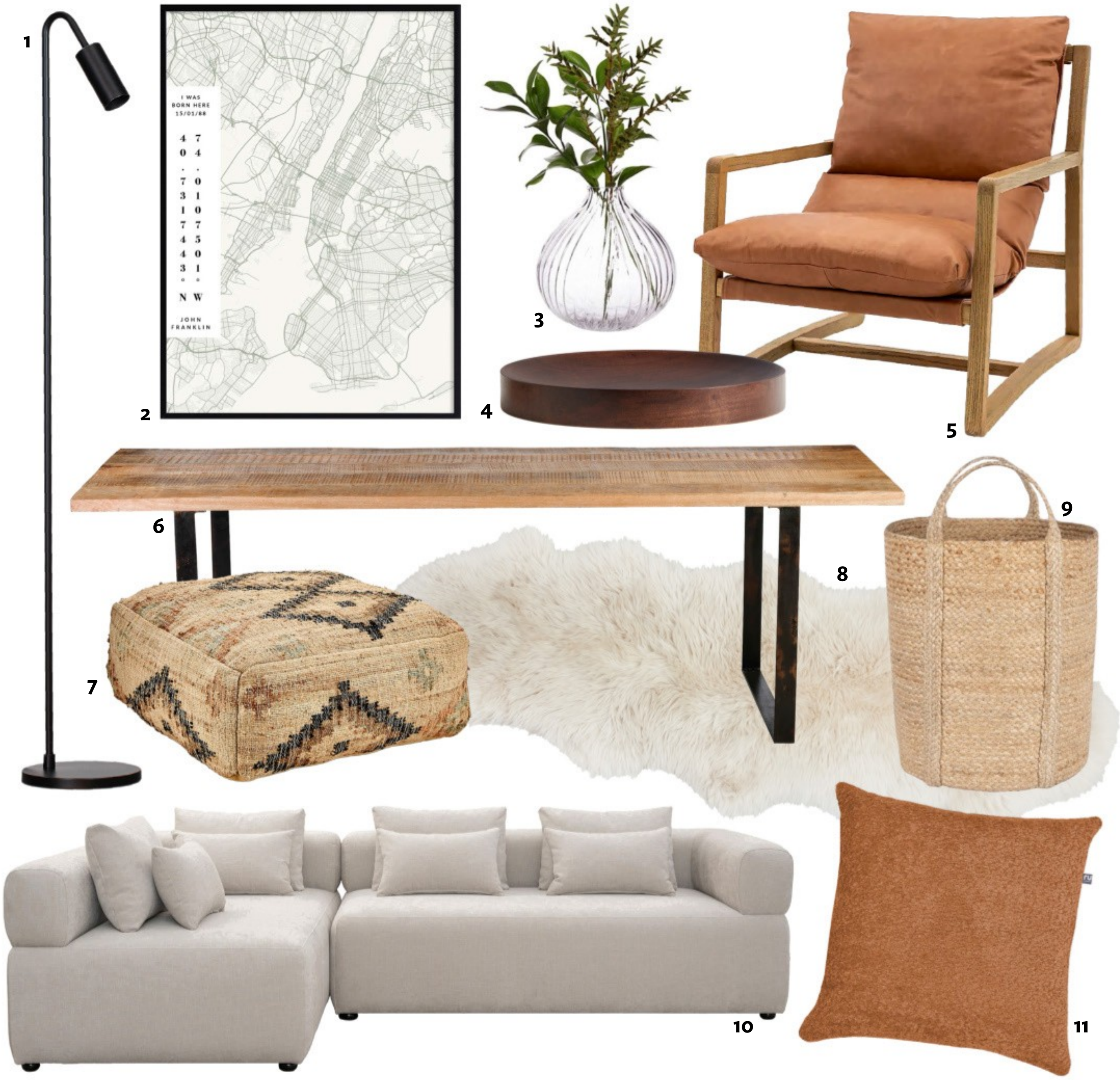
Each of the bathrooms has a minimalist design of pure white walls and white taps but with brightly coloured sinks for a splash of colour.
Basin, Not Only White. Fluted wall tiles, Porcelanosa. Shower screen, Altitude Glass. Taps, Dornbracht

> ‘The ribbed tiles in the bathroom are minimalistic but also add a wonderful layer of texture for added interest’

GET THE LOOK

STYLE *inspiration*

Bring Susie's modern-rustic aesthetic home with a mix of tactile textures, earthy colours and sleek silhouettes



1 Curve floor lamp in Matte Black, £105.60, By Rydéns at Nordic Nest **2** Map No 2 Day personalised poster in Green, from £29.95 (excluding frame), Desenio **3** Round fluted glass vase (flowers not included), £20, The Wisteria Tree **4** Large dish in solid mango wood, £34.99, H&M Home **5** Davis leather lounge chair with wooden base, £749, Dunelm **6** Fia dining table in mango wood and iron, from £1,200, Nkuku **7** Kesu Kilim pouffe in Natural, £360, Nkuku at John Lewis **8** Single sheepskin rug in Oatmeal, £95, The White Company **9** Slouchy Natural basket, small, £55, The Braided Rug Company **10** Beck left-hand corner sofa in Parchment, £1,199.99, My Furniture **11** Snug cushion in Rust, £34.99, RUComfy

FEATURE LISA FAZZANI

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HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY
A city penthouse

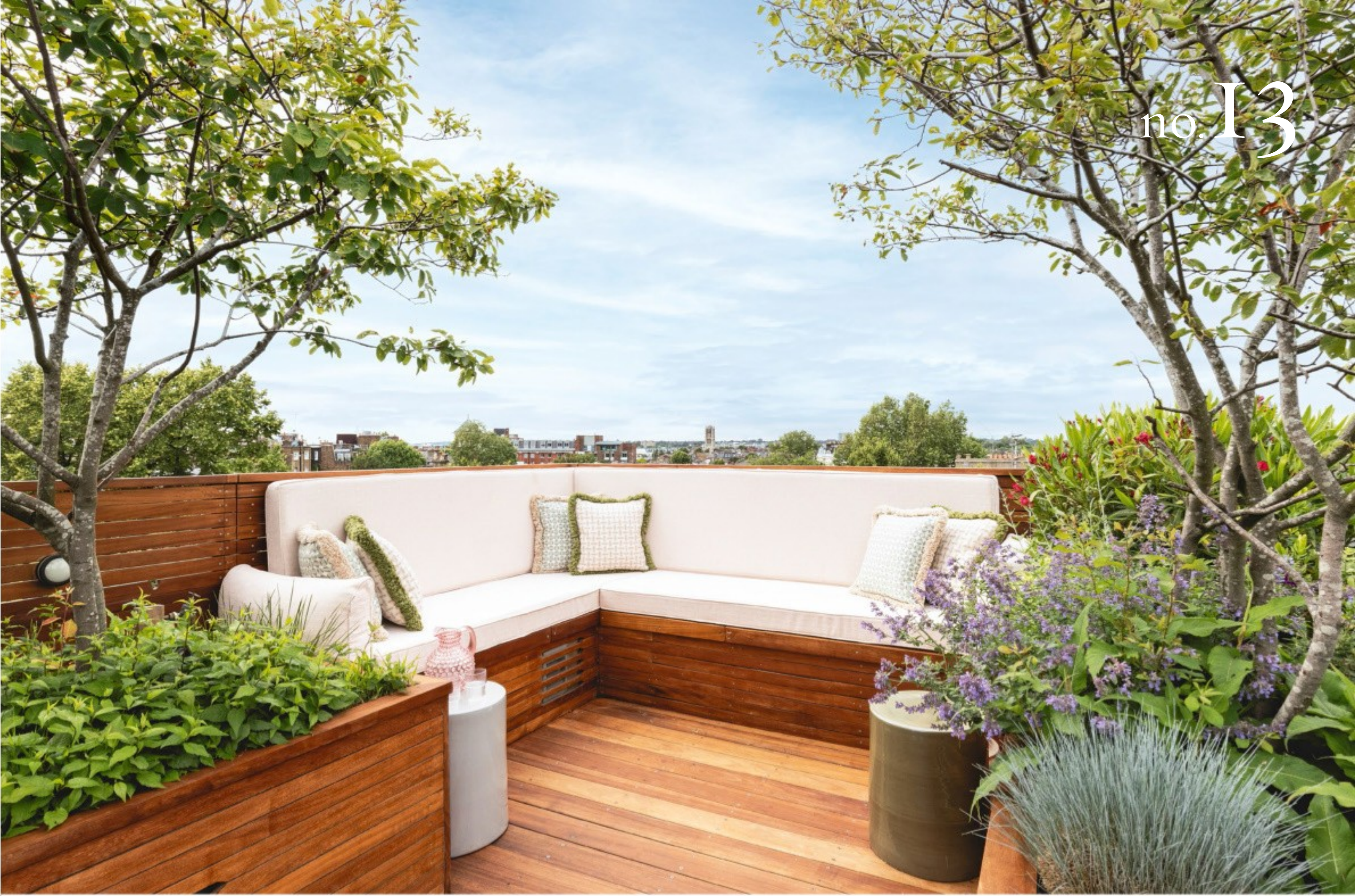
ROOMS Kitchen, dining room, sitting room, study, cloakroom/laundry room, two bedrooms, two bathrooms, mezzanine nook, roof garden

LOCATION London

Personal best

Designer Scarlett Hessian was tasked with creating bespoke pieces and unique schemes to make this apartment one of a kind for its owners

WORDS RUTH CORBETT | **PHOTOGRAPHY** BILLY BOLTON



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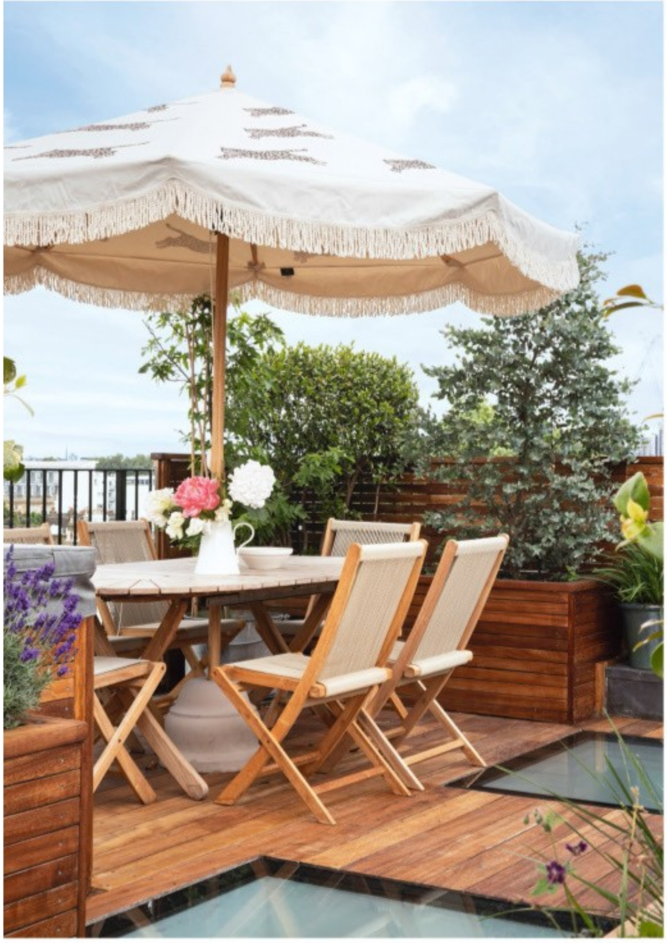


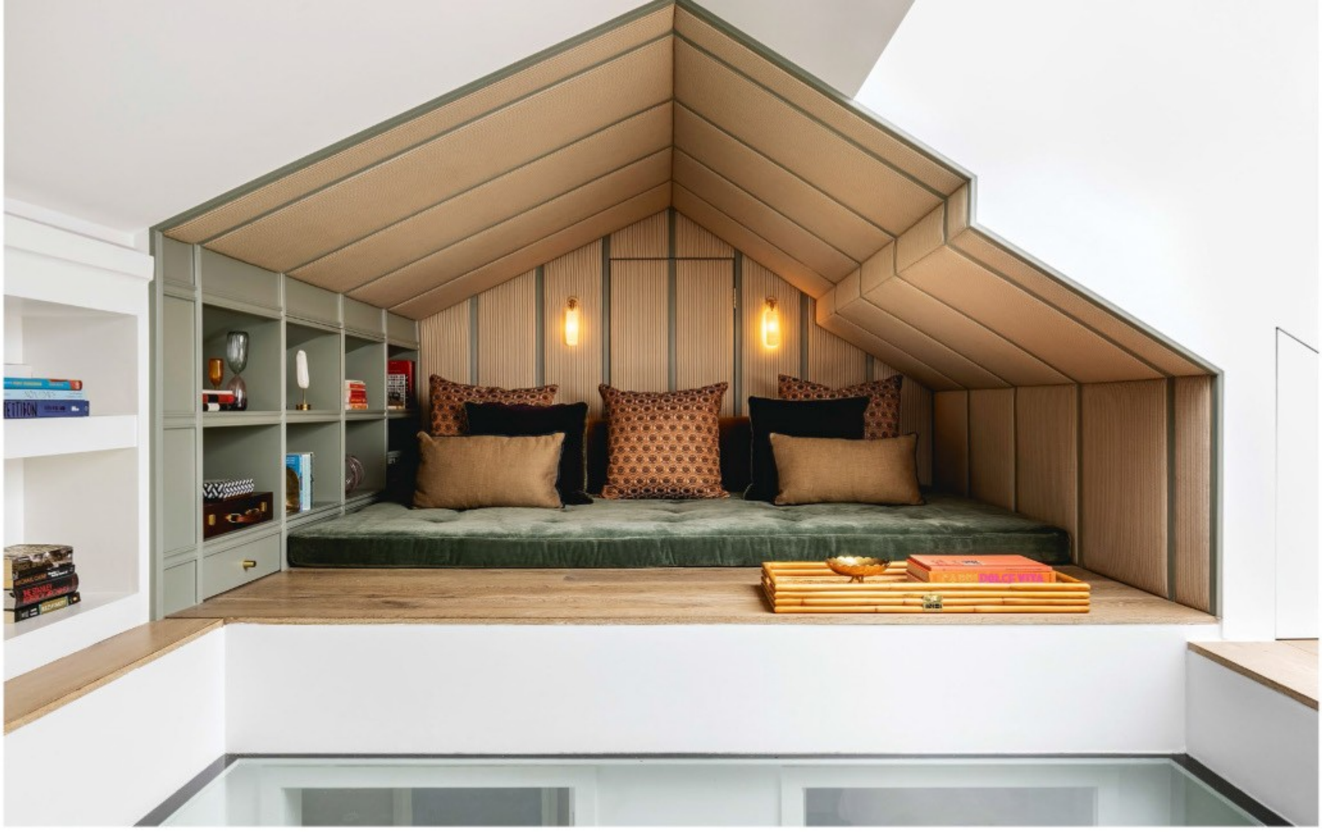
WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO THIS PROJECT? The challenge of designing custom furniture that felt truly personal and bespoke was a big draw for me, as I love working on spaces that feel as unique as the people who live in them.

WHAT WERE THE CLIENTS' MAIN PRIORITIES? Privacy was key, but they also envisioned a welcoming space where they could host dinner parties with friends from all over the world – a home that felt personal and effortlessly sophisticated at the same time.

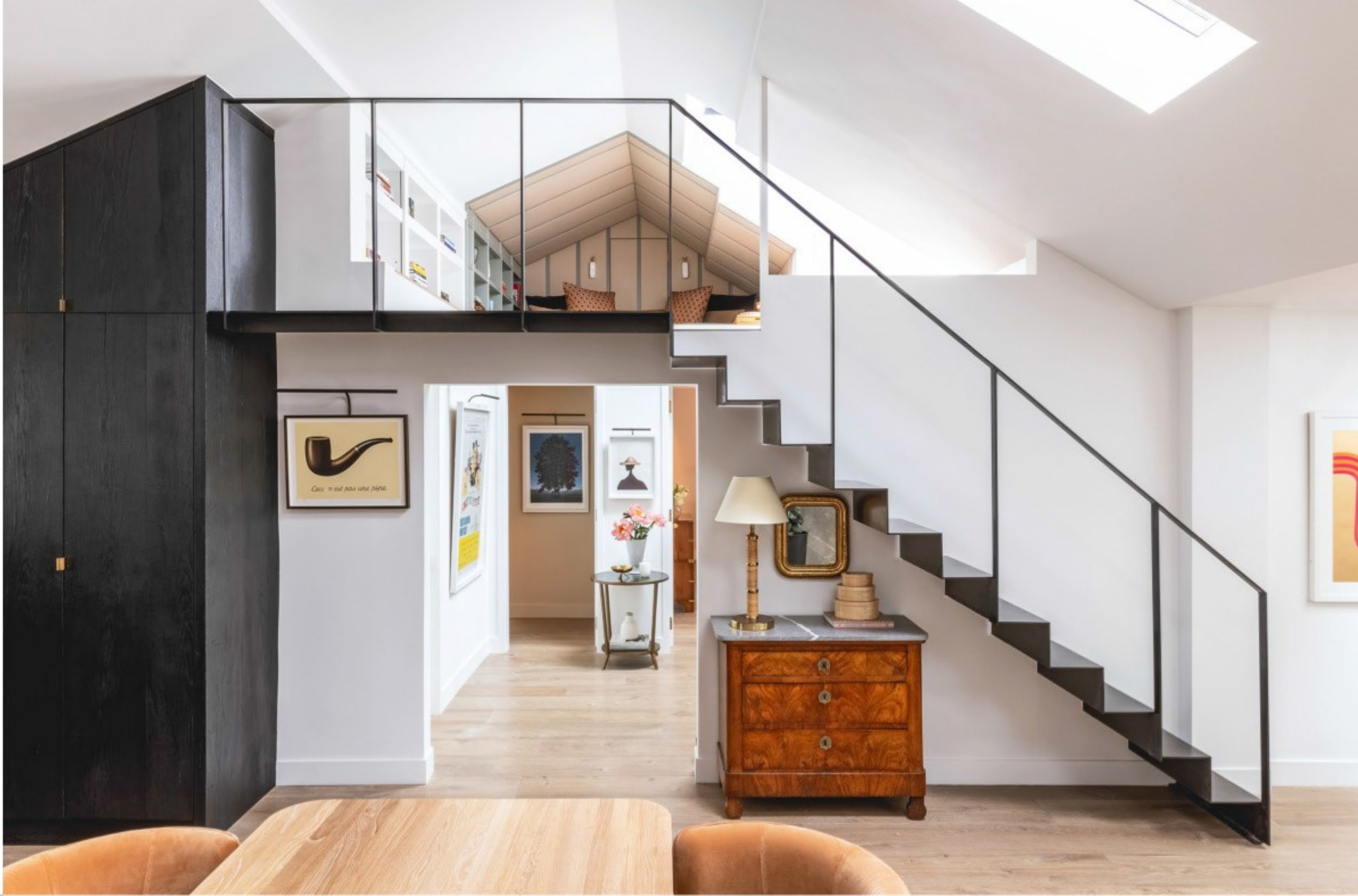
HOW INVOLVED WERE THE HOMEOWNERS? They were incredibly hands-on. We shared a vision of creating a place that felt deeply personal to them, so we spent time together exploring showrooms, selecting pieces and even going antique shopping across Europe. Their engagement really elevated the process and allowed the design to become a true reflection of them.

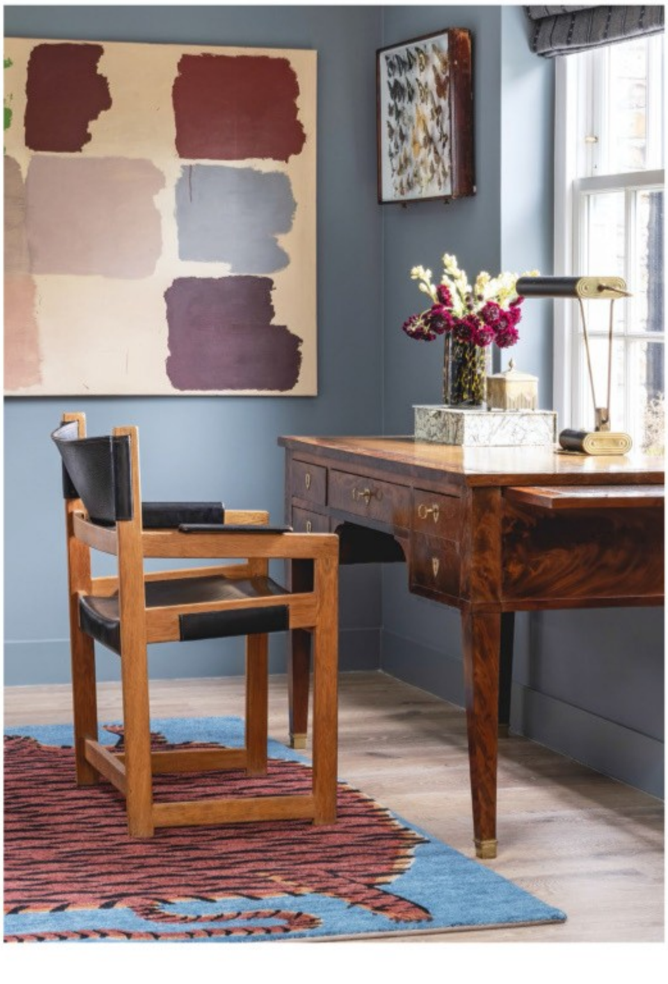
SITTING ROOM
This needed to comfortably host guests while looking refined and polished. Antique bouclé armchairs, Maison Jaune. Round table, Ethnicraft. Square table, Julian Chichester. Coffee table designed by Studio Hessian; made by Stance Studio. Sofa designed by Studio Hessian; in velvet fabric, Rose Uniacke. Chair by Gubi in Rose Uniacke Peach Melba velvet. Rug, The Rug Company. Artwork, M.A.H Gallery

ROOF GARDEN
With custom planting beds to provide shade, this is an oasis in the city. Glazed ceramic table, Serax. Hobnail jug, Selfridges. Glasses, Ferm Living



‘The walls and ceiling of the mezzanine area are lined with a French silk fabric that makes the space stand out’





WHAT ROOM WAS THE MOST SATISFYING TO CREATE? The mezzanine library nook was an absolute highlight. Transforming a tricky space into something both functional and beautiful was a rewarding challenge. We lined the ceiling and walls with French silk fabric: there's something so luxurious about that combination. It's now a really playful yet sophisticated retreat.

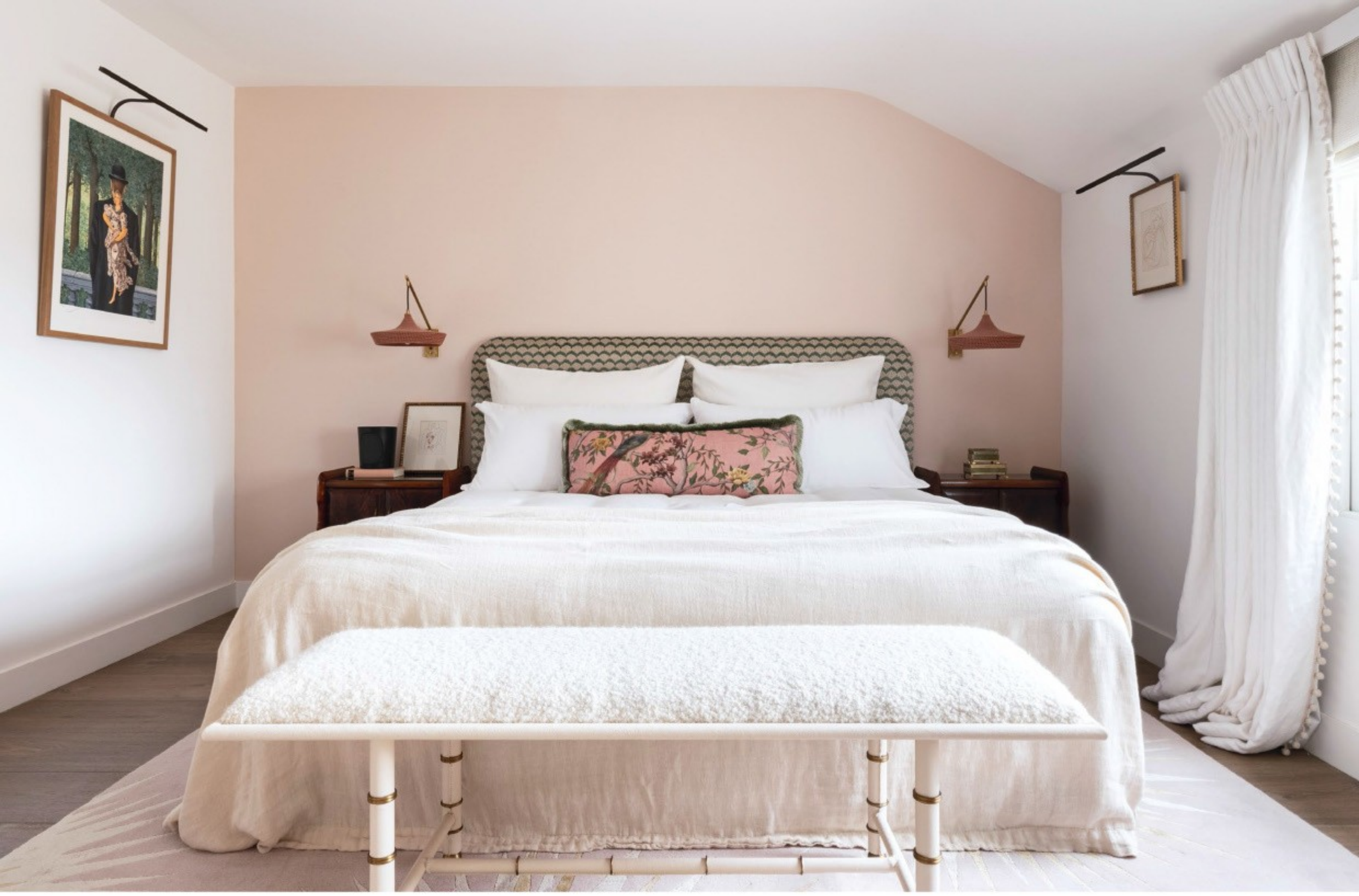
HOW DID YOU CHOOSE THE COLOUR PALETTE? My clients had a clear vision: they loved pink and green, so we built the palette around those tones. From there, we let the key furniture pieces guide the choices, integrating subtle pops of colour against a neutral backdrop. The result is a fresh, harmonious scheme that feels lively yet sophisticated.

WHAT WAS THE MOST SATISFYING ASPECT OF THIS PROJECT? The seamless fusion of custom-designed furniture with carefully chosen antiques and art was incredibly satisfying. The

STUDY
Moody walls complement the modern artwork.
Art, M.A.H Gallery. Rug, Tufenkian. Swedish chair, Vinterior. 19th-century French directoire bureau, 1stDibs. N71 desk lamp, Eileen Gray

KITCHEN
Sleek units keep the space minimal but functional.
Pendant lights; bar stools, Rose Uniacke

MEZZANINE NOOK
Hidden storage in the walls maximises space.
Classic Cloth wall fabric, Tissus d'Hélène. Walls in Pigeon, Farrow & Ball. Wall lights, Felix Lighting Specialists. Vintage brass bowl, Hessian Collective



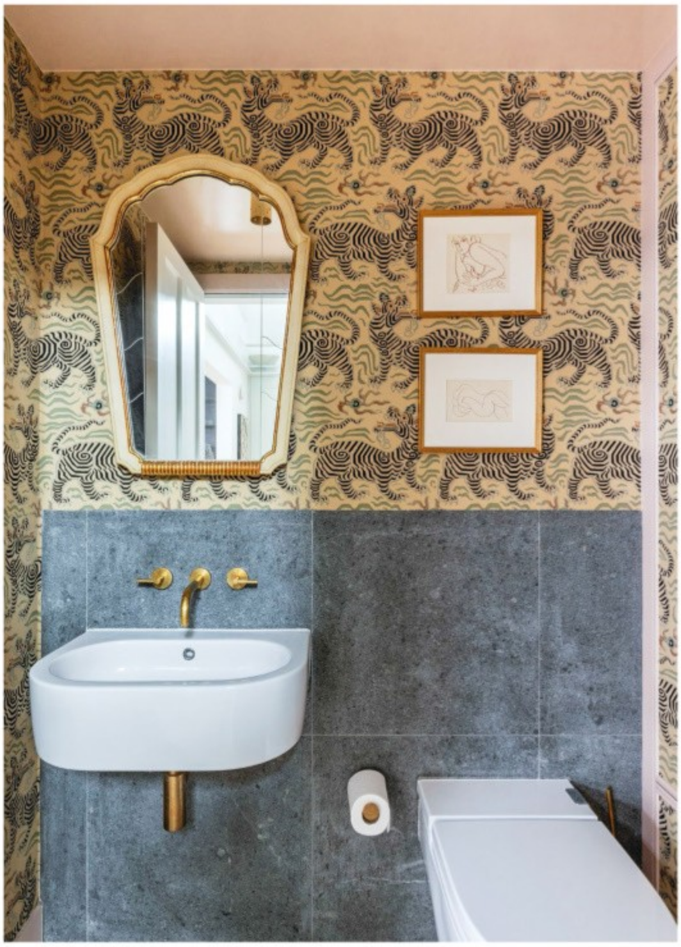
way each piece complements the others is what makes the space feel so cohesive. It's that perfect balance of old and new, functional and decorative. It's a symphony of design elements coming together in a way that feels both purposeful and effortless.

THE ROOF GARDEN IS FUN. TELL US ABOUT THAT. The roof garden was such a fun feature to design, and a rare one in this part of London! We added built-in seating with storage for cushions, making the space both practical and inviting. It's the perfect spot for casual drinks or an intimate dinner party.

WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE FOR CREATING A SUCCESSFUL SCHEME? Start with a clear brief and make sure there's a cohesive design thread running through every part of the space. Pay attention to the smallest details – the little kick on the leg of a chair, for example, can completely change the mood of a room. When these small touches harmonise with bigger design elements, that's when the room really comes together and feels complete. ㉕

studiohessian.com

MAIN BEDROOM
Neutral colours and classic decor ensure this space is a luxurious haven. Vivienne Westwood rug, The Rug Company. Bench upholstered in Pierre Frey bouclé, Julian Chichester. Picture lights, Vaughan



CLOAKROOM
This small space is big on bold design details. Vintage Matisse prints in gilded frames get pride of place, set against a playful tiger print wallpaper. Tibet wallpaper, Clarence House. Mirror, Lorfords

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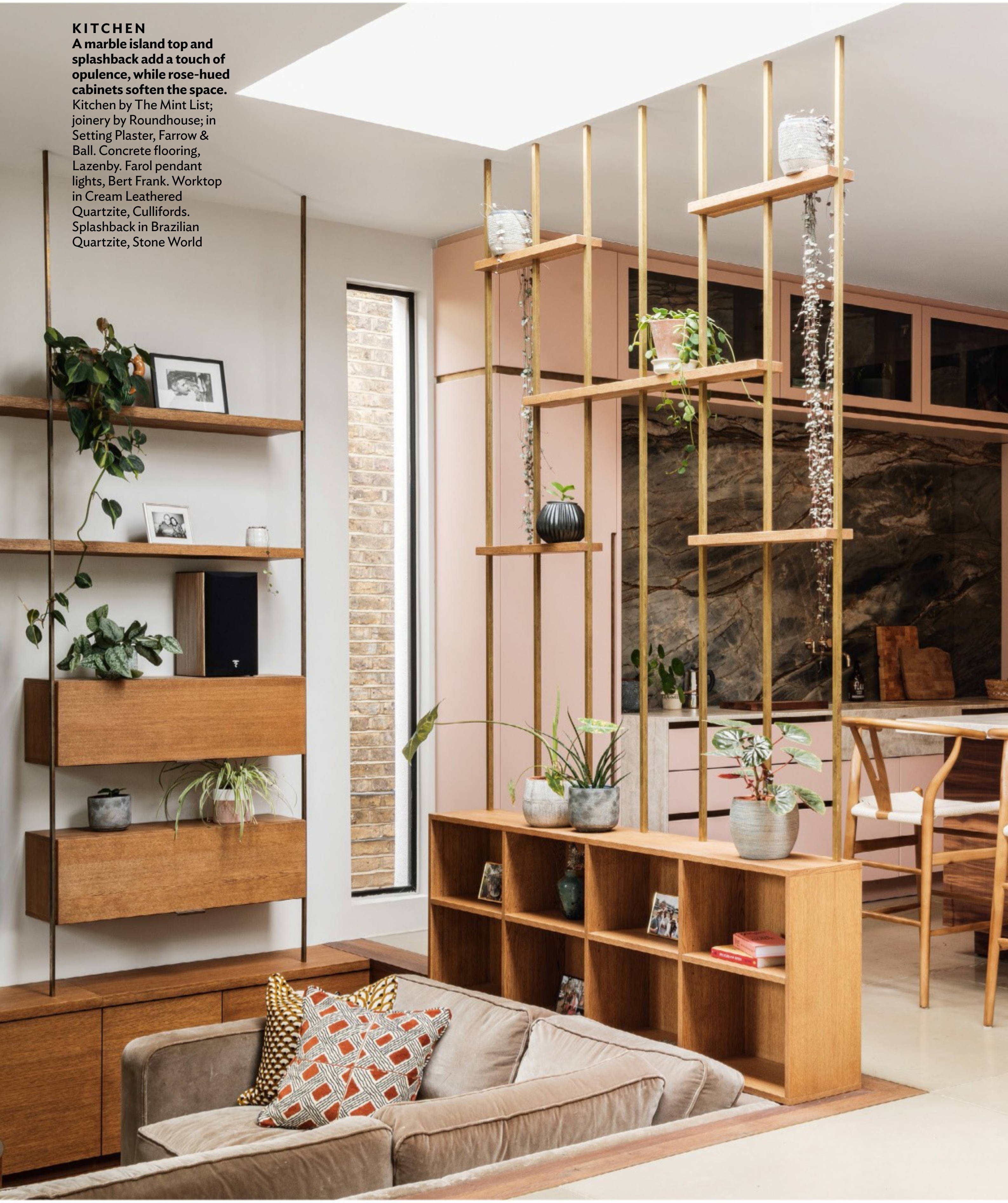
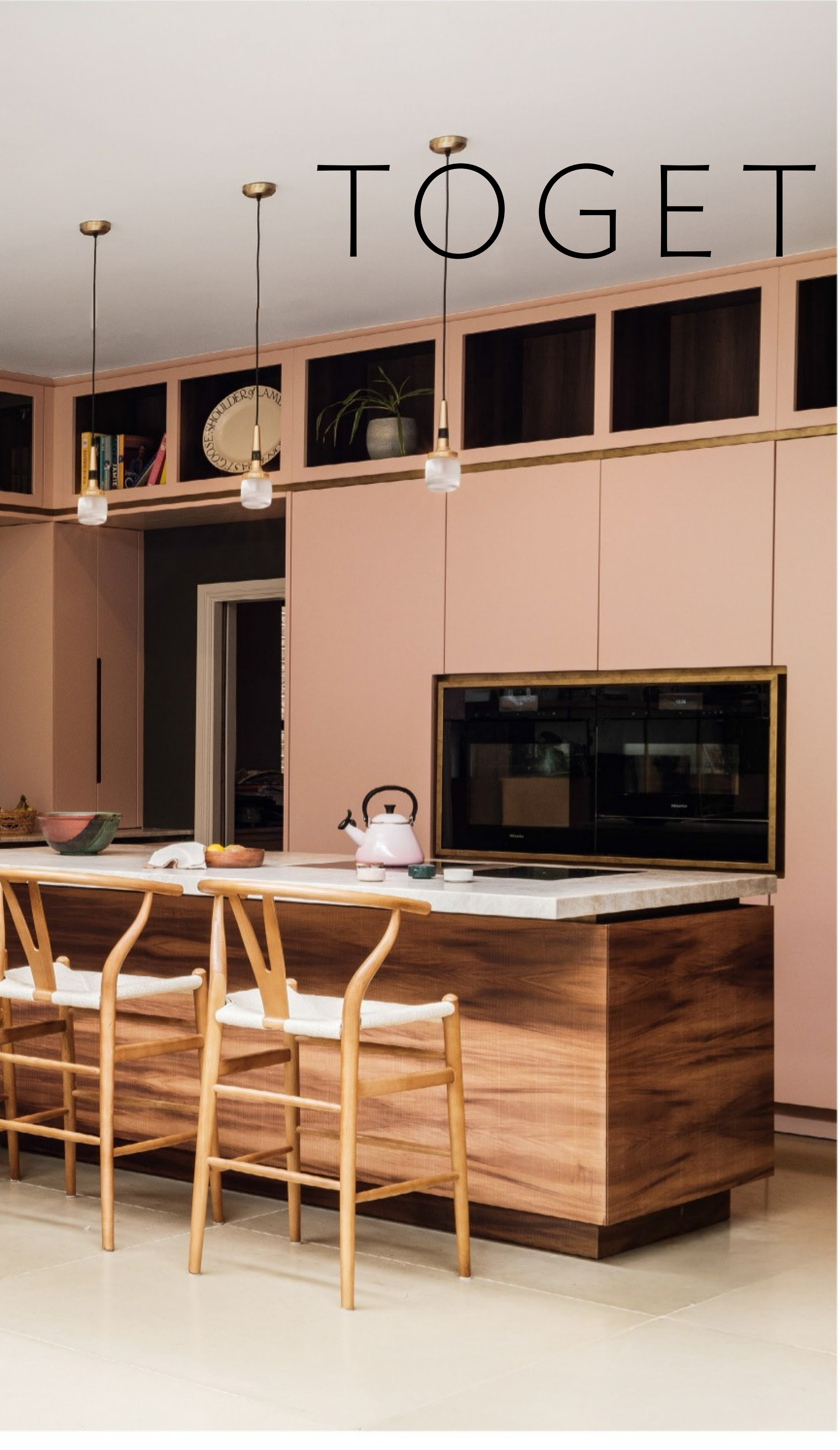


KITCHEN

A marble island top and splashback add a touch of opulence, while rose-hued cabinets soften the space. Kitchen by The Mint List; joinery by Roundhouse; in Setting Plaster, Farrow & Ball. Concrete flooring, Lazenby. Farol pendant lights, Bert Frank. Worktop in Cream Leathered Quartzite, Cullifords. Splashback in Brazilian Quartzite, Stone World

no. 14

ALL TOGETHER



Iraj and Gemma Ali's modernised Edwardian home is now a stylish and eco-friendly family space where everyone can coexist in harmony

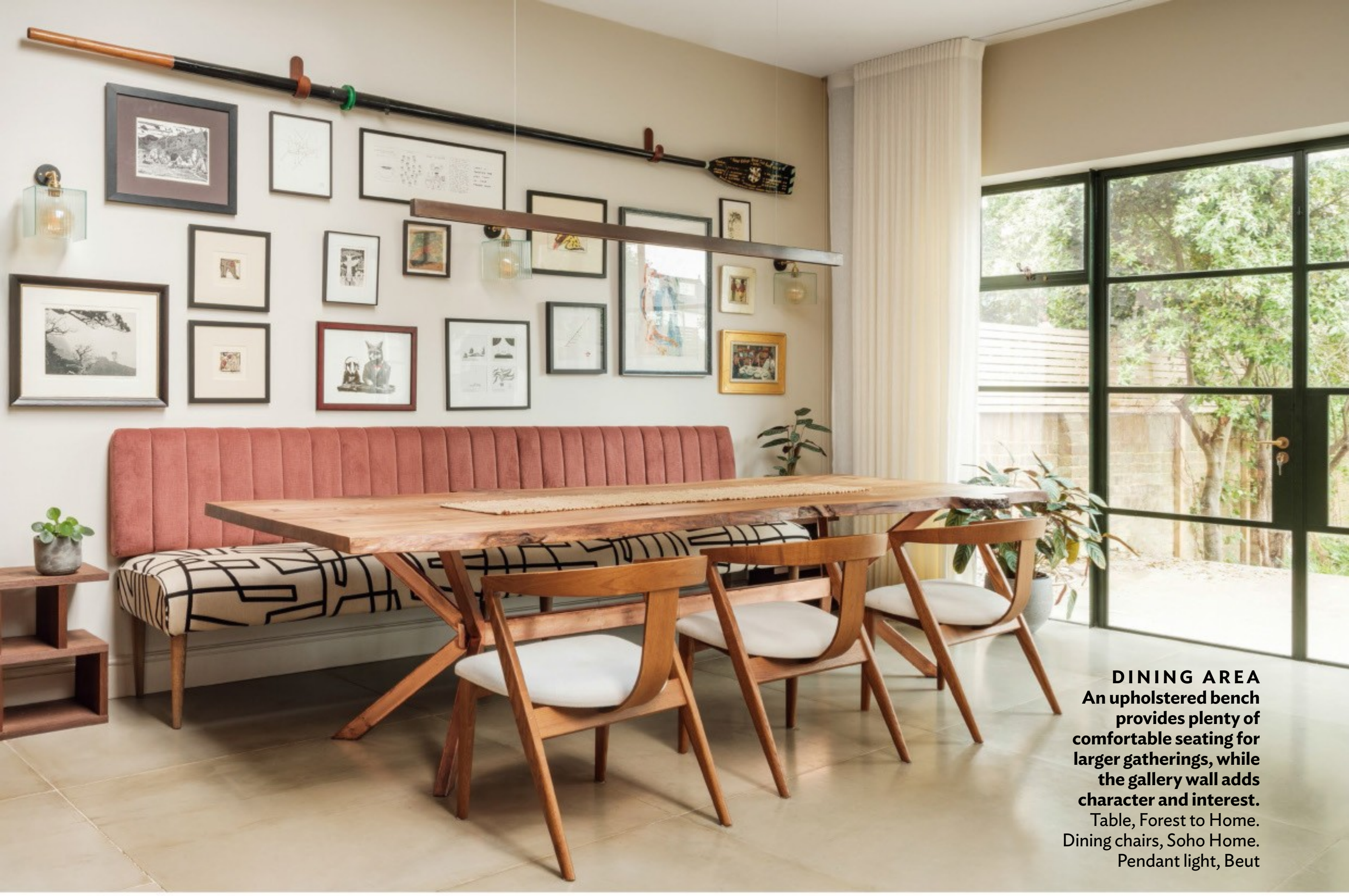
WORDS CHARLOTTE LUXFORD
PHOTOGRAPHY DAVE WATTS

HOME TRUTHS

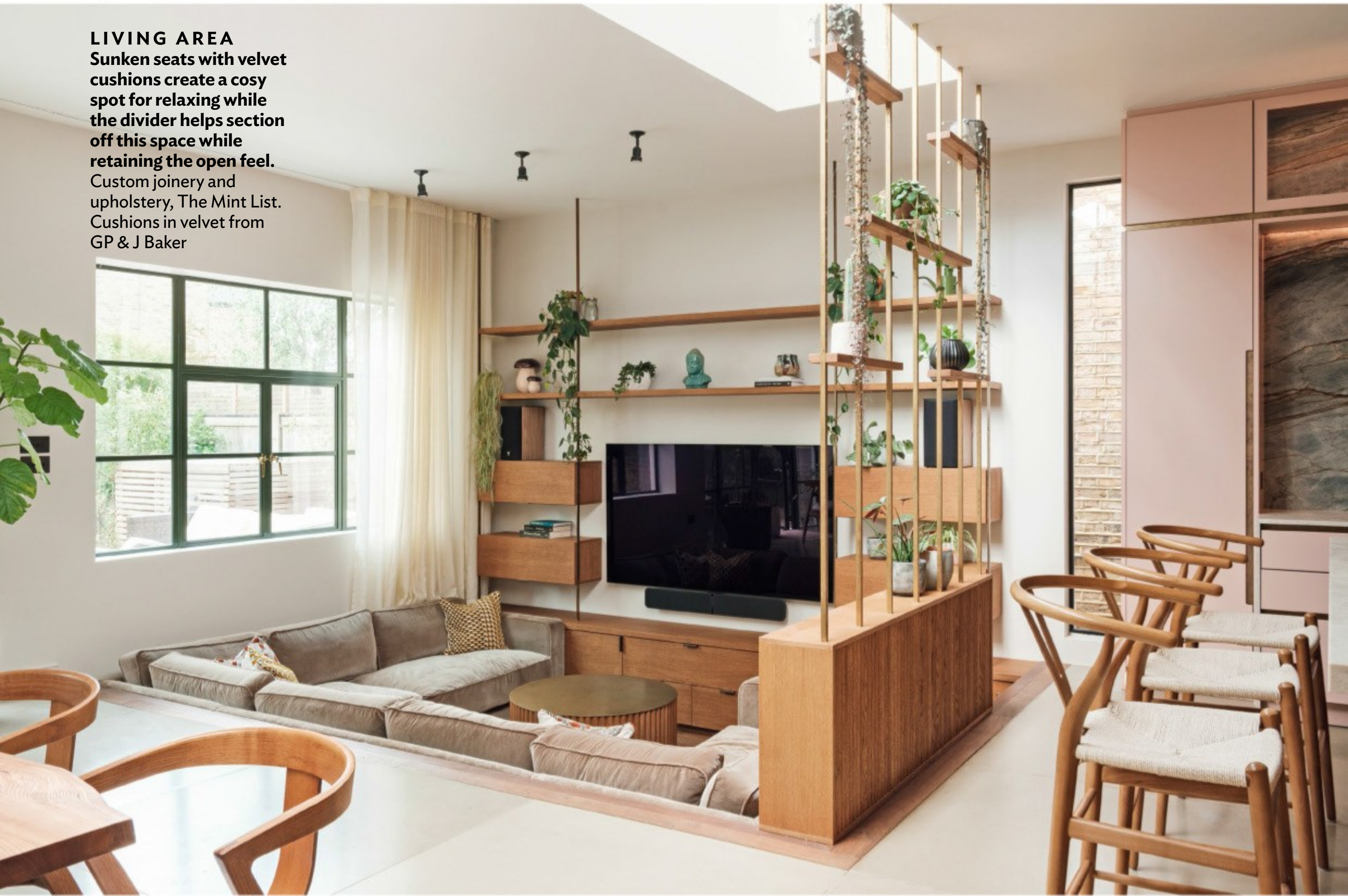
THE PROPERTY
Detached
Edwardian home

ROOMS
Kitchen-diner/living area, cinema room, den, cloakroom, two studies, four bedrooms, two dressing rooms, four bathrooms

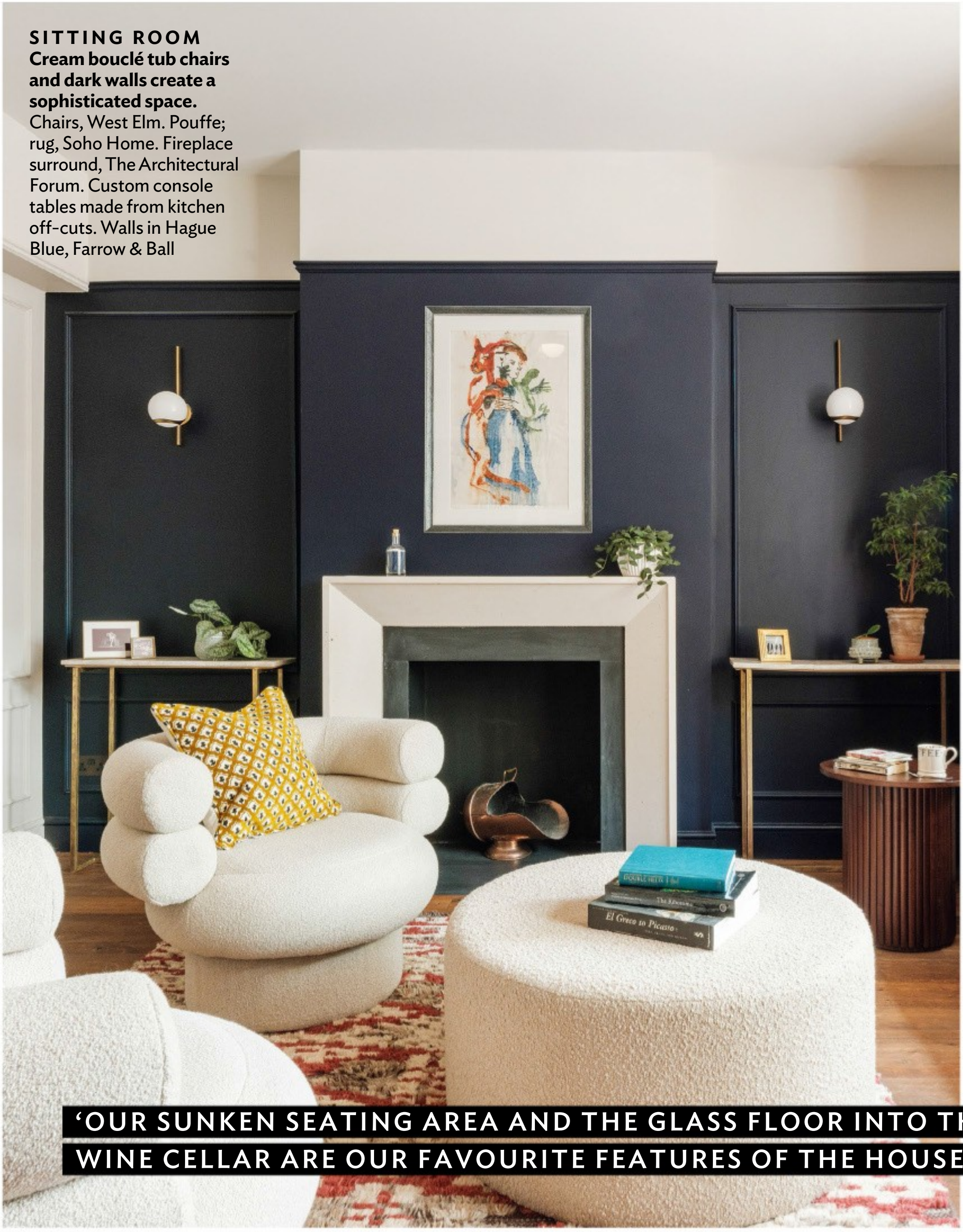
LOCATION
Southwest London



DINING AREA
An upholstered bench provides plenty of comfortable seating for larger gatherings, while the gallery wall adds character and interest. Table, Forest to Home. Dining chairs, Soho Home. Pendant light, Beut



LIVING AREA
Sunken seats with velvet cushions create a cosy spot for relaxing while the divider helps section off this space while retaining the open feel. Custom joinery and upholstery, The Mint List. Cushions in velvet from GP & J Baker



SITTING ROOM
Cream bouclé tub chairs and dark walls create a sophisticated space.
Chairs, West Elm. Pouffe; rug, Soho Home. Fireplace surround, The Architectural Forum. Custom console tables made from kitchen off-cuts. Walls in Hague Blue, Farrow & Ball

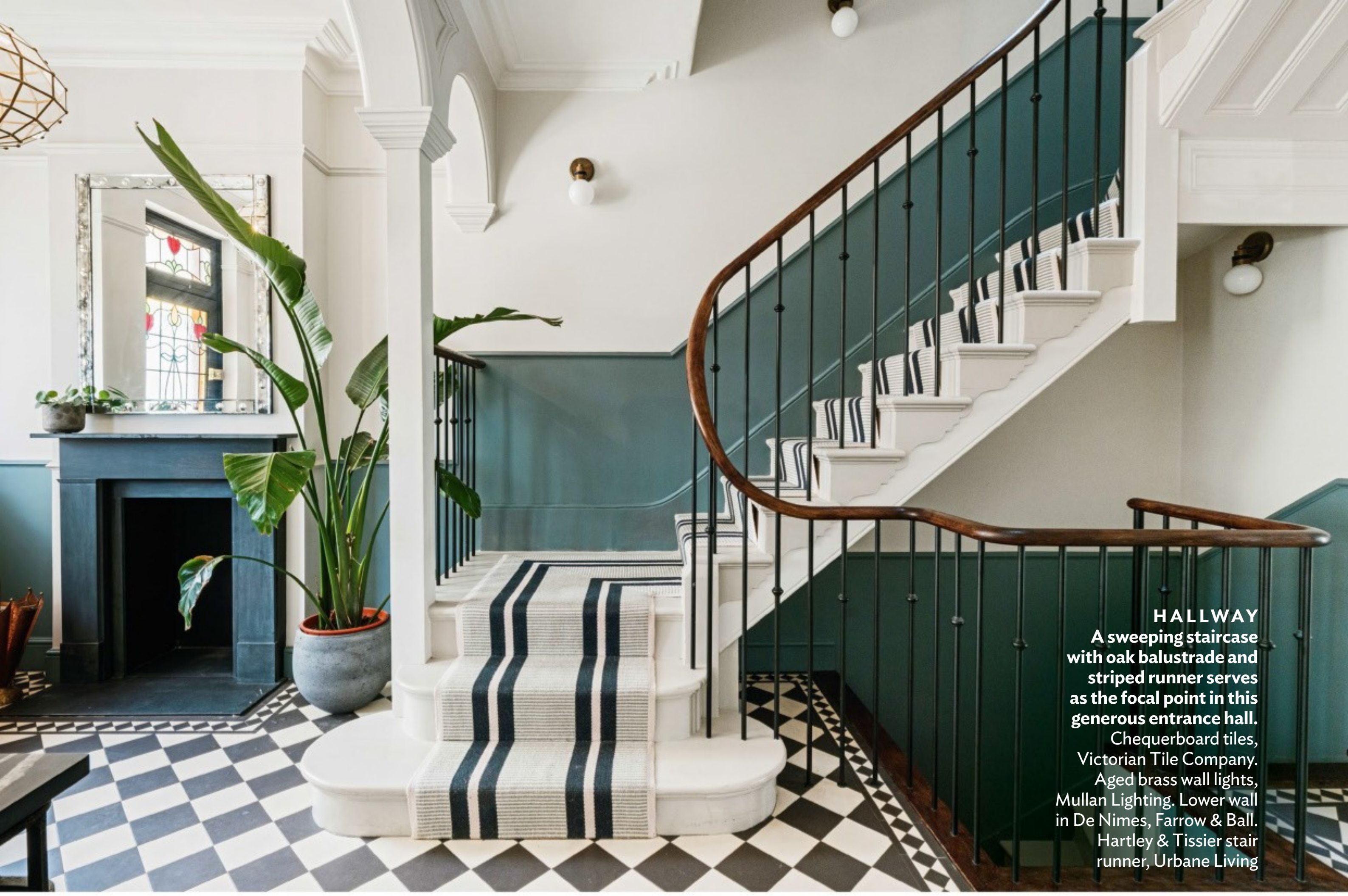
> ‘OUR SUNKEN SEATING AREA AND THE GLASS FLOOR INTO THE WINE CELLAR ARE OUR FAVOURITE FEATURES OF THE HOUSE’

Iraj and Gemma Ali were on the hunt for a fixer-upper they could turn into their own private sanctuary, away from the chaos of daily life. With two teenage children – Charlie, 19, and Scarlett, 17, plus several pets, the family wanted a house that could provide ample space and separate hangouts for everyone to enjoy. When they found this detached Edwardian home in southwest London, they fell in love with its period charm and yet they could see it had the potential to work for modern-day family life.

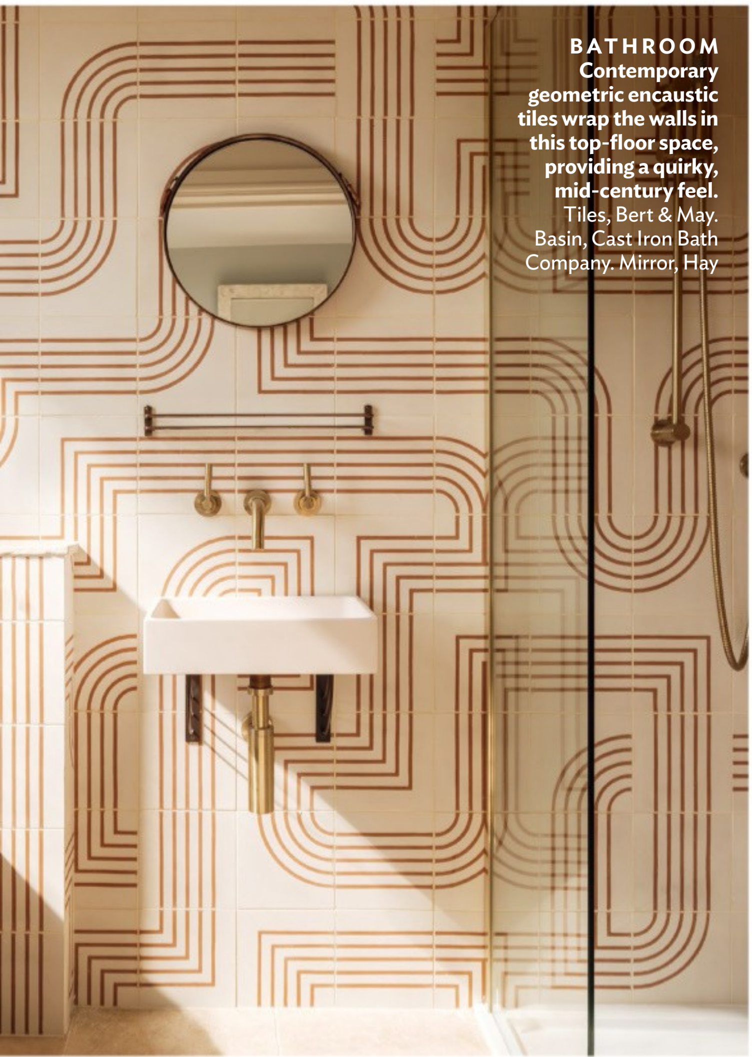
Once the family moved into the property, they lived in the house for a few months to get a feel for the space and think about what changes needed to be made. While they hadn’t intended to get an interior designer involved, they met Camilla Kelly, founder of The Mint List, through a mutual friend and hit it off with her instantly. ‘As soon as we met Camilla we knew we wanted her on board,’ explains Gemma. ‘She understood our priorities, lifestyle and goals and we loved her style.’

The couple tasked Camilla with transforming the property into a luxury, contemporary family home that oozed style while also delivering on the multifunctional spaces they required. Some fundamental changes were made, including moving the basement stairs and reconfiguring the first floor, as well as adding a rear ground-floor extension and a loft conversion.

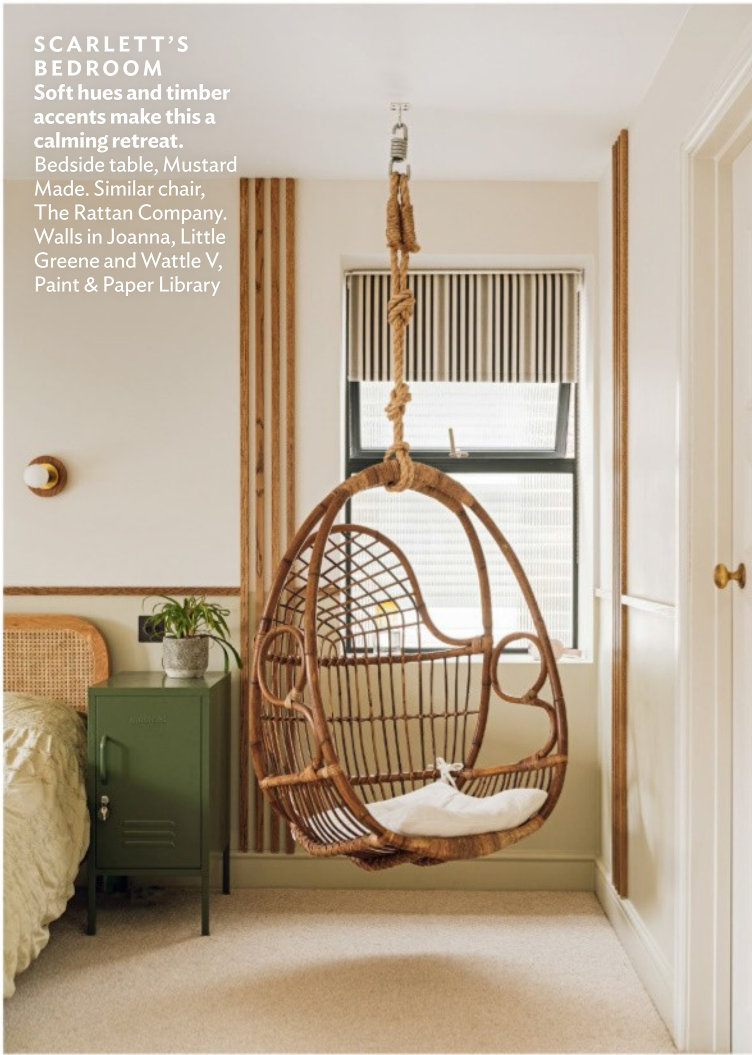
Camilla was determined to meet the family’s needs, which is evident from the clever design details, including the bespoke dog bed built into the pantry cabinetry and a secret jib door that leads to the cinema room. One standout feature, however, is the 1970s-style sunken ‘conversation pit’ seating area in the rear extension, which was designed to bring the family closer together



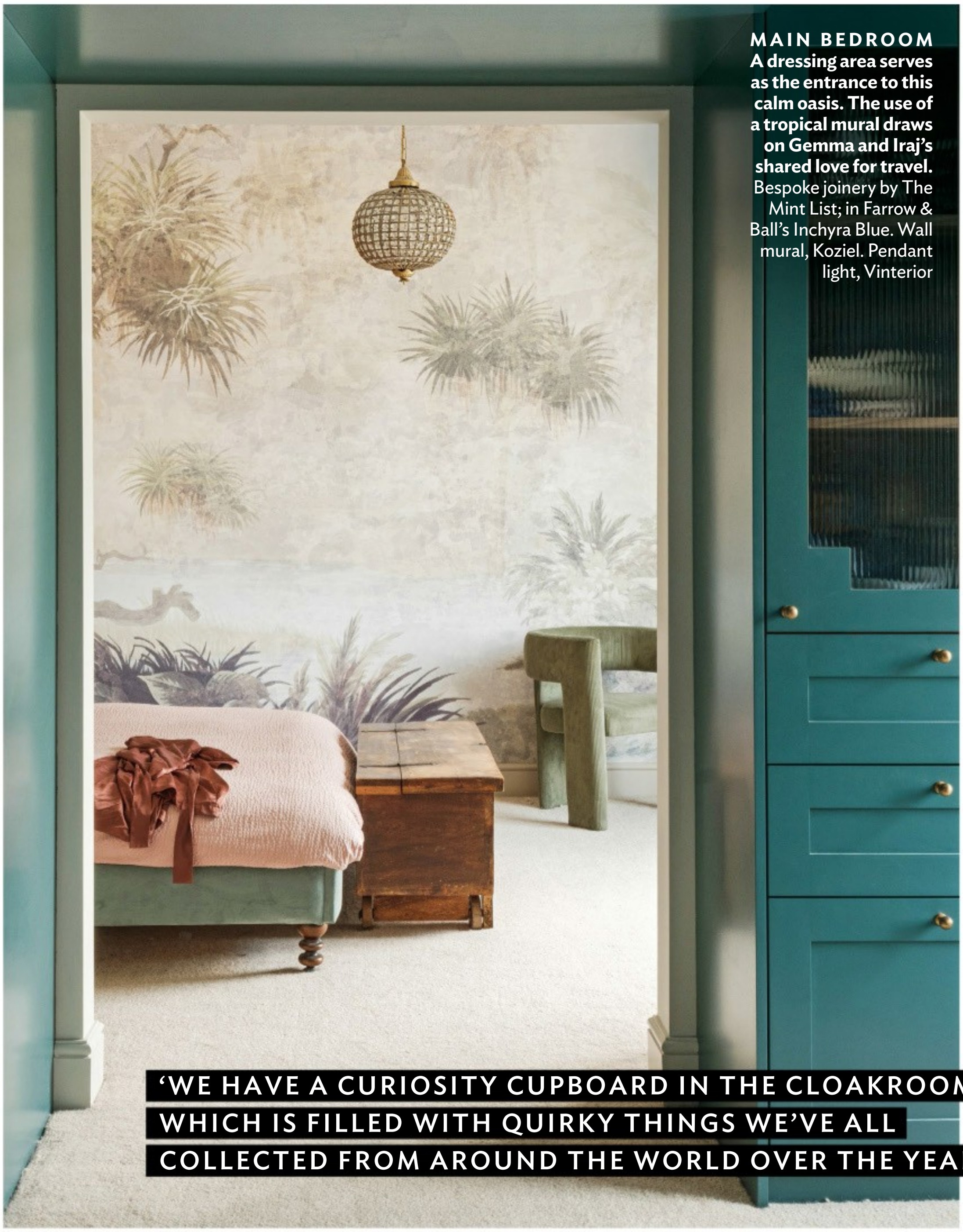
HALLWAY
A sweeping staircase with oak balustrade and striped runner serves as the focal point in this generous entrance hall. Chequerboard tiles, Victorian Tile Company. Aged brass wall lights, Mullan Lighting. Lower wall in De Nimes, Farrow & Ball. Hartley & Tissier stair runner, Urbane Living



BATHROOM
Contemporary geometric encaustic tiles wrap the walls in this top-floor space, providing a quirky, mid-century feel. Tiles, Bert & May. Basin, Cast Iron Bath Company. Mirror, Hay



SCARLETT'S BEDROOM
Soft hues and timber accents make this a calming retreat. Bedside table, Mustard Made. Similar chair, The Rattan Company. Walls in Joanna, Little Greene and Wattle V, Paint & Paper Library



MAIN BEDROOM **A dressing area serves as the entrance to this calm oasis. The use of a tropical mural draws on Gemma and Iraj's shared love for travel.** Bespoke joinery by The Mint List; in Farrow & Ball's Inchyra Blue. Wall mural, Koziel. Pendant light, Vinterior

> 'WE HAVE A CURIOSITY CUPBOARD IN THE CLOAKROOM WHICH IS FILLED WITH QUIRKY THINGS WE'VE ALL COLLECTED FROM AROUND THE WORLD OVER THE YEARS'

while also helping to break up the large open-plan space into distinct zones.

'Historically, the conversation pit would be a place where people come together and share stories – we loved that idea, and so did Gemma and Iraj,' says Camilla. 'They love to entertain, so it's perfect for socialising, but equally it's great for family downtime – Gemma and Iraj are sports fans and they love to watch matches on the big screen.'

From top to bottom, there's a real sense of cohesion. 'We opted for a fluid scheme of natural materials and a calm, contemporary palette with an emphasis on earthiness,' says Camilla. There's a nod to the art deco period and the 1970s that gives the interiors a touch of luxury, but also swagger, while details including artwork from talented friends add a personal touch.

Not only are the interiors slick and well considered – a substantial part of Gemma and Iraj's brief was to create a greener and more efficient home. For Camilla, this meant factoring in extensive insulation, routing for the air source heat pump and incorporating a rainwater harvesting system into the design scheme – a challenge given the age and size of the property. 'We didn't quite meet passive house standards, but apparently it's the most eco-friendly period house in the area,' says Camilla.

Despite the scale of the project, it was completed within nine months. 'It's made such a difference to the way we live,' says Gemma. 'Charlie is in a band and they jam together in the basement twice a week and we love being able to retreat to our cinema room when the kids take over. But it's the eco upgrades that feel really great; it's such a pleasure knowing we have less impact on the environment in our day-to-day lives.'

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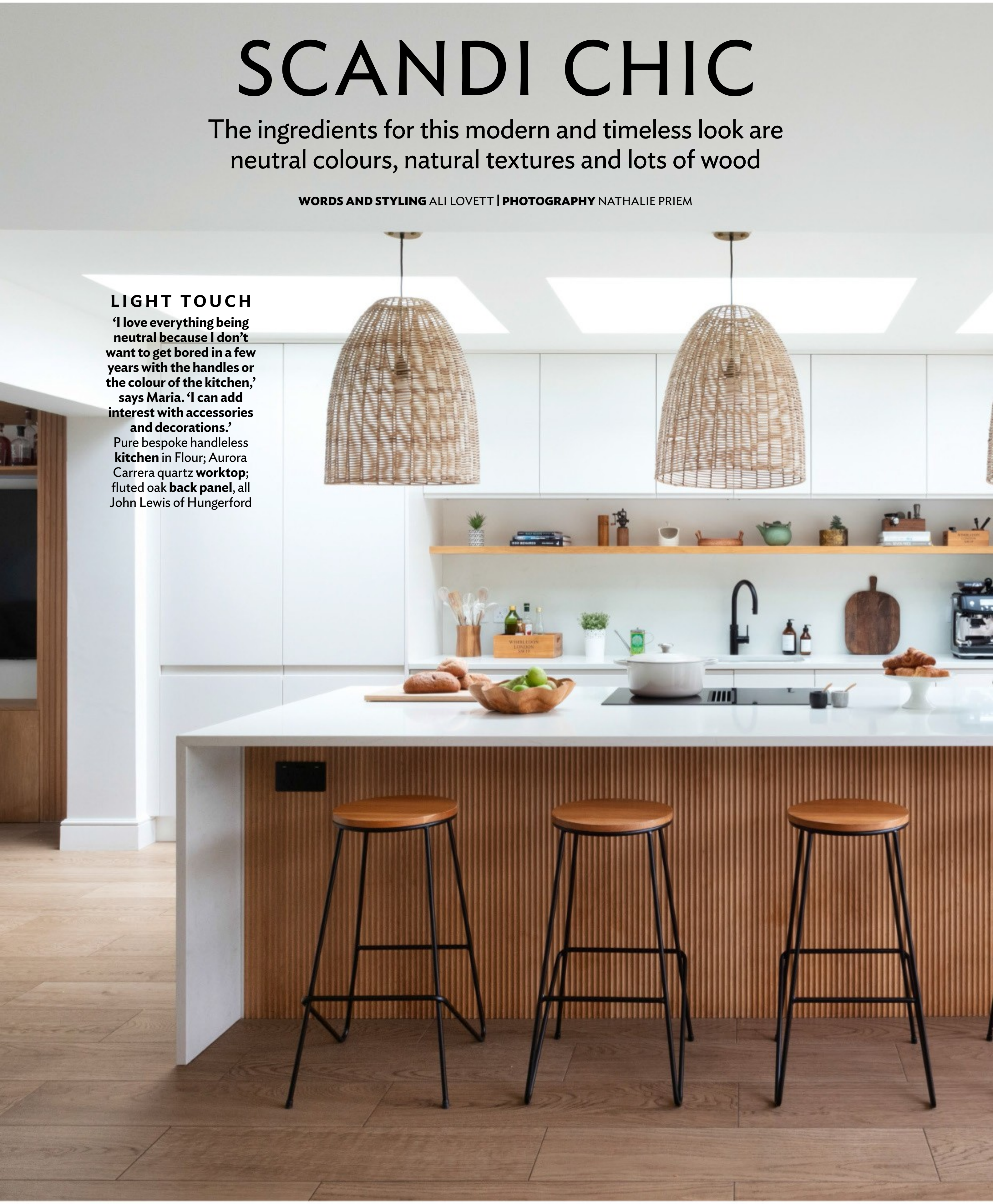
SCANDI CHIC

The ingredients for this modern and timeless look are neutral colours, natural textures and lots of wood

WORDS AND STYLING ALI LOVETT | **PHOTOGRAPHY** NATHALIE PRIEM



LIGHT TOUCH

'I love everything being neutral because I don't want to get bored in a few years with the handles or the colour of the kitchen,' says Maria. 'I can add interest with accessories and decorations.'
Pure bespoke handleless **kitchen** in Flour; Aurora Carrera quartz **worktop**; fluted oak **back panel**, all John Lewis of Hungerford

no.15

PROJECT DETAILS

OWNERS
Maria Mele, her husband Mariano and their three children

PROPERTY
Semi-detached Edwardian house

WORK
The house was extended to create a large kitchen-diner

LOCATION
London

When Maria Mele moved to her new house two years ago she knew it would need a top-to-toe renovation, but her vision for the kitchen was clear from the start. 'I love Scandinavian-style interiors,' says Maria, 'and steel-framed glazing was a must-have – everything needed to work around those.'

1 MAKING PLANS

Maria worked with architect Maria Steimberg from Ohma Studio on the design to create a sociable space that's perfect for her family, 'We spend so much time in the kitchen, it was important to get it right,' says Maria. 'I wanted to be able to do things while the children were in the same space, doing their homework. Or if I'm hosting a dinner party or cooking for my family and they're sitting at the dining table I want to be part of the conversation – that's why we decided to have a large, central kitchen island in order to be able to face the dining table while preparing food.'

2 SMOOTH TRANSITION

Building work went smoothly, with the family living in rented accommodation during the messiest parts. 'I think the whole project went so well because of the careful planning beforehand,' says Maria. 'We didn't have any issues and I think that's because we were 100% sure on what we wanted before we started, with very detailed designs that we were involved in from start to finish.'

3 COMING TOGETHER

Maria was especially impressed with how the studio managed to translate all her ideas into reality. 'In every house I've lived in we've added a white kitchen – it's a great starting point to decorate around,' says Maria. 'Here we've mixed wood, exposed brick and steel-framed glazing with a white kitchen and it's given us a pared-back but considered scheme that's full of texture.'

4 STAYING CONNECTED

Although all the major renovations on the house have been completed, Maria is now considering adding doors to the snug, which is located next to the kitchen. 'We always wanted something that was connected, but after two years of being able to hear my kids shouting while playing the PlayStation, I'm ready to close it off!' laughs Maria. 'But it would have to be steel-framed or glass doors – I love the light which flows from the front to the back of the house.'

ALL IN THE DETAILS

'I'm so glad, after lots of discussions with the architect, that we chose exposed brick on the wall behind the dining table,' says Maria. 'Mixed with the steel-framed glazing and wood it makes the kitchen feel warm and well put together. The floating wooden shelves give us the option to decorate with books and plants, or keep useful things to hand,' she adds. 'We use the bar stools a lot – for breakfast time and homework as well. There are two sockets in the island, hidden away under the worktop which meant the fitters didn't need to cut the stone.'
Units and **worktop**s, as before. Noko wicker dome pendant **ceiling lights**, Nkuku. Wood-effect **floor tiles** in Forest Natural, Porcelanosa. GoodHome Maloux black oak **bar stools**, B&Q. **Steel doors**, Fabco. KMDA 7272 FR-U Silence **induction hob**, Miele. FLEX 3 boiling **water tap**, Quooker. For similar **dining chairs**, try Nordina Home. For a similar **dining table**, try Larsen 12-seater extending table in solid oak, John Lewis. Gaia **pendant light** in brass, Tala

TOP TIP
Plan in sockets under the overhang of an island worktop for handy charging and a streamlined, clean look

‘LOW-LEVEL UNITS RUN ACROSS THE FEATURE BRICK WALL TO ENSURE THERE IS PLENTY OF STORAGE IN THIS BUSY KITCHEN’

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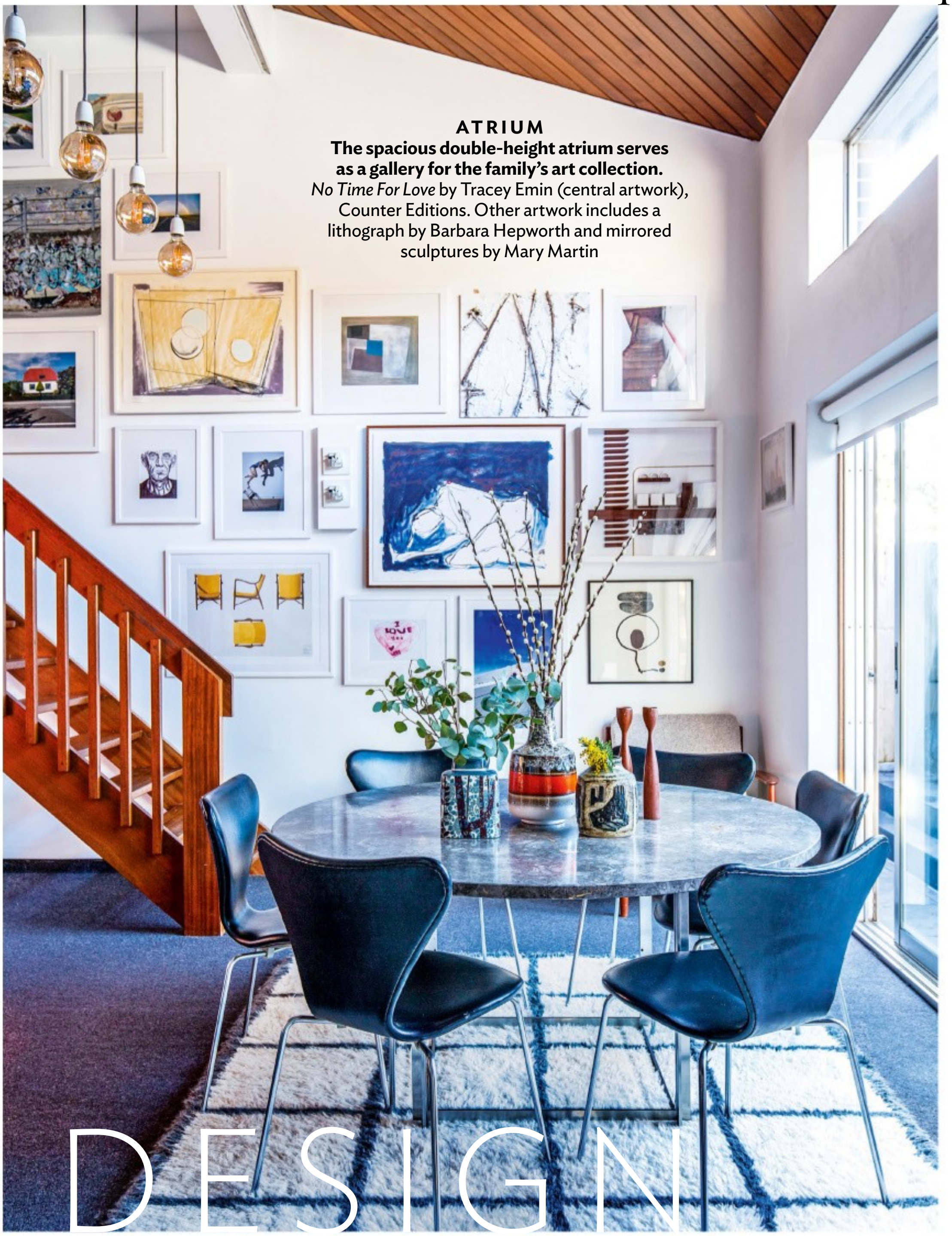
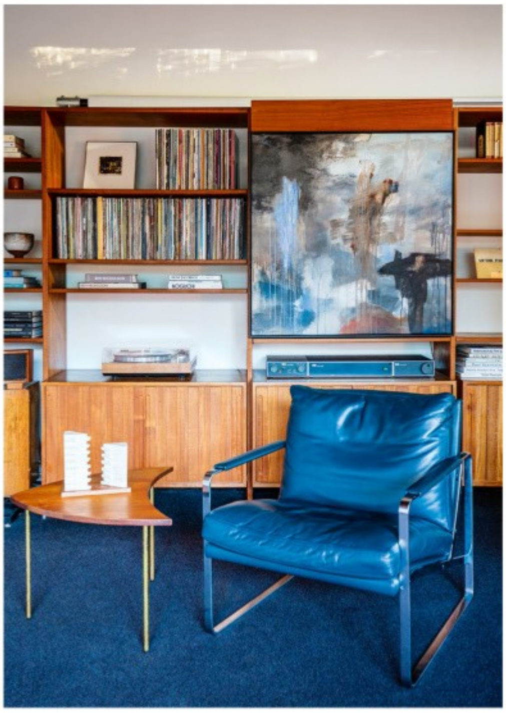


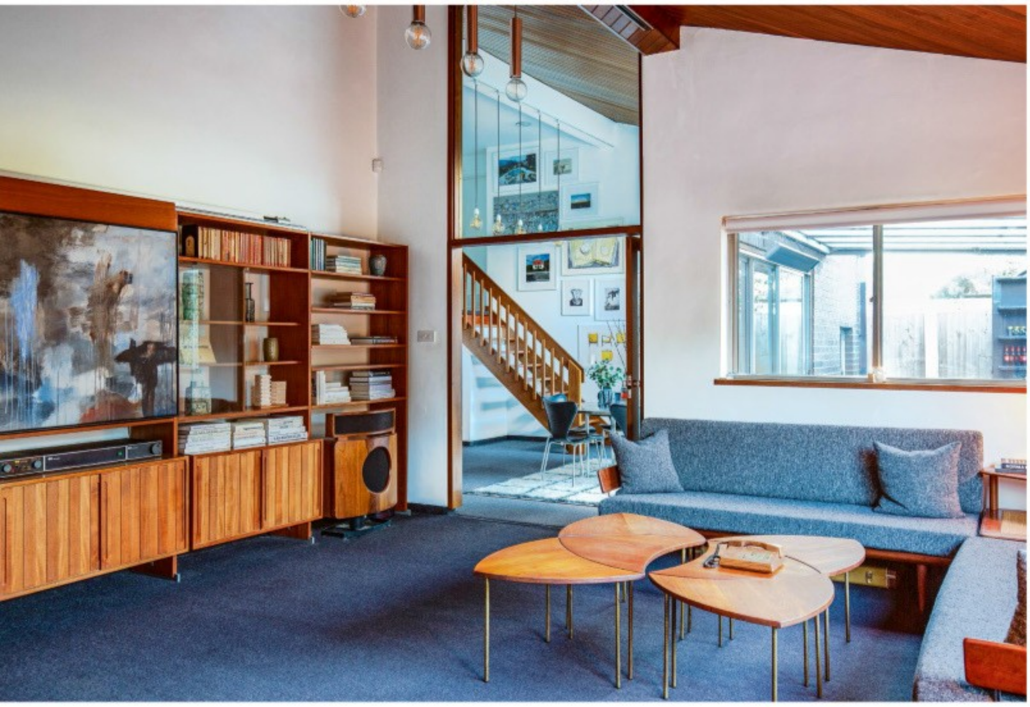
ATRIUM
The spacious double-height atrium serves as a gallery for the family's art collection. *No Time For Love* by Tracey Emin (central artwork), Counter Editions. Other artwork includes a lithograph by Barbara Hepworth and mirrored sculptures by Mary Martin

DESIGN STAR

A 21st-century take on mid-century modernism is seamlessly executed in the renovation of Marcus and Caroline Hoggarth's late-1960s home

WORDS ALICE ROBERTON | **PHOTOGRAPHY** TAMSYN MORGANS





Nestled in a quiet residential street in a pretty town in Hertfordshire, Marcus and Caroline Hoggarth's late-1960s home stands as a striking design statement. The couple, along with their four children – Evan, Roan, Bayley and Isla – and their dog, Joni (named after Joni Mitchell), have embraced the house's mid-century character while thoughtfully updating it to suit their needs.

Designed and built by the previous owners, the home nods to brutalism with its raw materials and structural honesty, while also channelling the relaxed, open-plan ethos of Californian homes. Marcus, a product designer and president of Native Design, first spotted the house on the website WowHaus. 'Given that a mid-20th-century find like this is a rarity, we thought it was worth a look,' he says. 'Stepping through the front door, we immediately knew we weren't just looking; we were buying!' recalls Caroline, an upholsterer and owner of mid-century furniture shop, A Fold of Chairs. They moved in during 2014.

Since then, the couple has worked to retain the house's authenticity while making necessary modifications. 'The original layout wasn't optimised for a growing family, so we reconfigured the bedrooms and bathrooms, transforming the integrated garage into a studio,' Marcus explains.

Their shared love of design is reflected in their home's interiors, where iconic mid-century furniture by Hans Wegner and Gio Ponti

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY
A mid-20th-century house

ROOMS
Sitting room, double-height atrium, kitchen-diner, studio, four bedrooms, two bathrooms

LOCATION
Hertfordshire

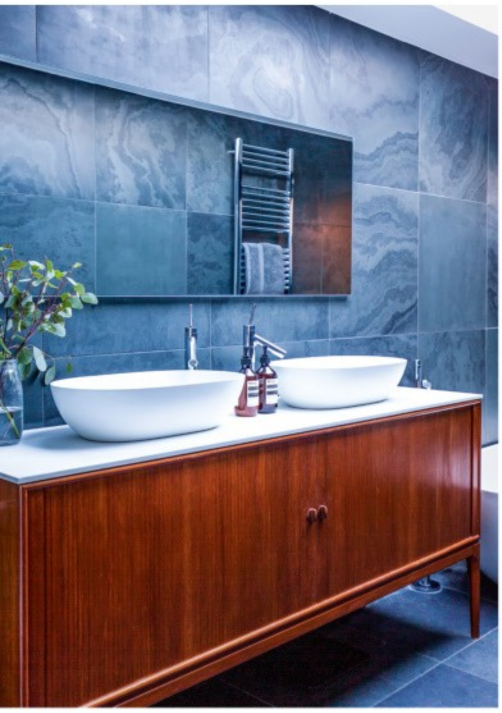
> ‘I’m a huge fan of quality Danish oil, regularly treating our wooden furniture to restore its richness and depth’

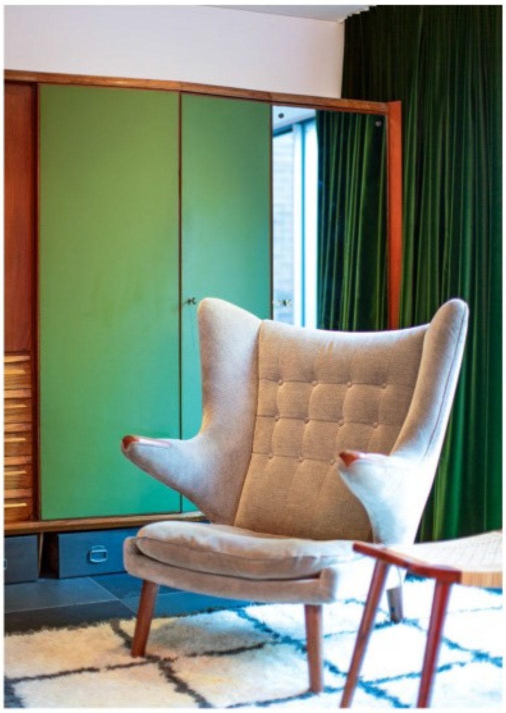
blends with contemporary art. However, their most cherished pieces are their family’s own creations. ‘Whilst home-schooling during lockdown, we joined friends and their children on Zoom where we each chose an artist to interpret. Bayley’s Anselm Kiefer-inspired installation and Isla’s Barbara Hepworth-style sculptures are just wonderful. Their works sit alongside our prints by Tracey Emin and Barbara Hepworth,’ says Caroline.

Preserving the home’s mid-century integrity has been a priority, with the couple meticulously selecting like-for-like material replacements wherever possible. ‘We’ve kept things simple with wood, grey and white forming our core palette. The main material addition has been slate – for the bathroom, studio floor, basement

SITTING ROOM
With a sloping timber ceiling and classic 1960s furnishings, this is a true homage to the era. Similar large shelves, Danish Homestore. Sofa by Peter Hvidt and Orla Mølgaard-Nielsen for France & Son; upholstered in fabric by Romo. Leather chair by Preben Fabricius and Jørgen Kastholm. Chair (against back wall), Grete Jalk for France & Son; upholstered in fabric from Bute Fabrics. Art (above chair on back wall) by Matt Rugg. Pinwheel wooden table by Peter Hvidt & Orla Mølgaard-Nielsen for France & Son

KITCHEN-DINER
The cabinetry came with the house but has been given a personal touch with mid-century furniture and inherited items. Kitchen, Poggenpohl. Similar Hans Wegner table and chairs, 1stDibs. Similar starburst clock, By Royale

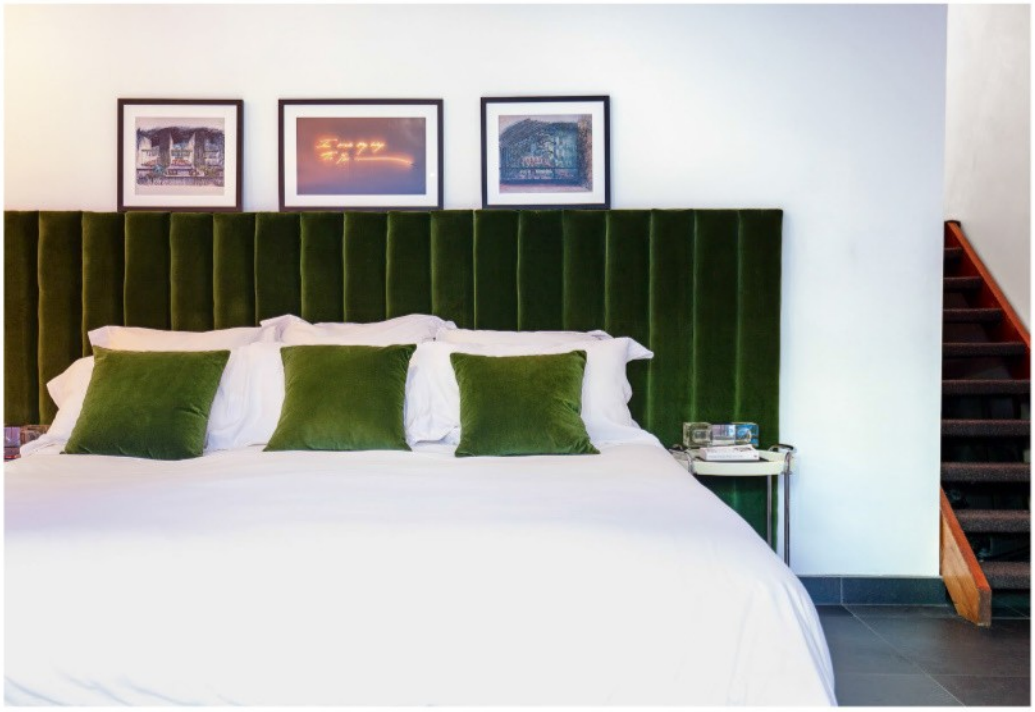




BATHROOM
Slate tiles provide a contemporary backdrop, while a mid-century sideboard fitted with a Corian top and basins ensures continuity with the home's vintage interior. Similar tiles, Porcelain Superstore. Basins, Waters Baths. Taps, Axor

MAIN BEDROOM
Bold tones of green link to the subterranean garden outside the room – which was designed to evoke memories of the Barbican Centre, where Caroline and Marcus were married. Headboard; cushions, all in velvet fabric, Designers Guild. Wardrobe by Gio Ponti. Danish Papa Bear chair by Hans Wegner. Rug, Soho Home

> 'Sustainability is a key feature of this house – even the bathroom vanity was created from an upcycled sideboard'



bedroom and patios. We even sourced original bricks to ensure our renovations blended seamlessly,' says Caroline.

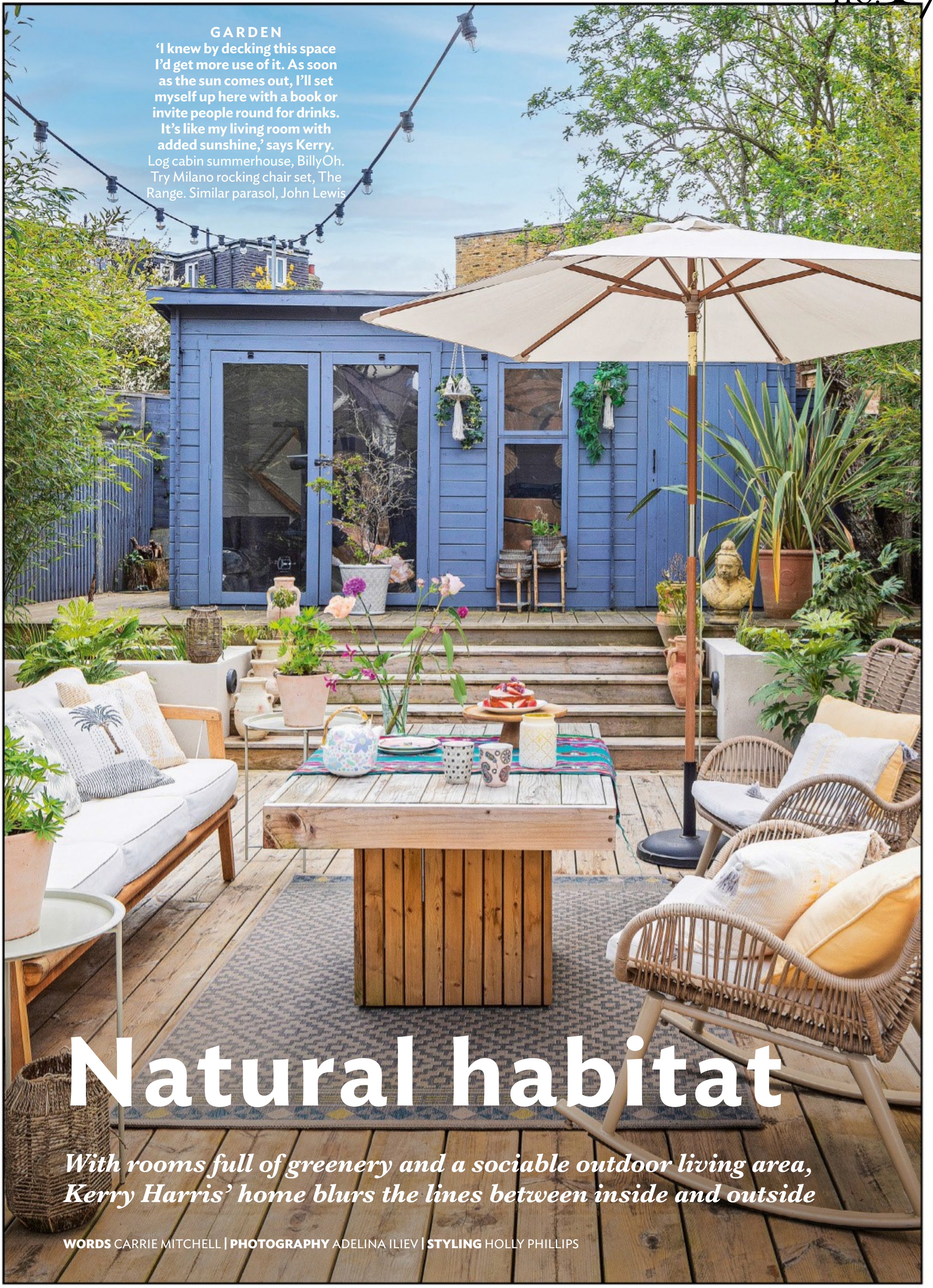
As an upholsterer, Caroline has a deep appreciation for furniture craftsmanship. She reupholsters mid-century pieces with carefully chosen fabrics that honour their design while ensuring durability for a busy household. 'With four children and a dog, selecting hard-wearing fabrics has been paramount. I've spent a lot of time researching materials that can withstand daily life – our living room upholstery from Designers Guild has been thoroughly tested!'

Their respect for craft extends beyond furniture. The house itself exemplifies exceptional workmanship. 'The staircases, bannisters and door frames were all made using wood that's jointed rather than screwed – a technique used in high-quality furniture,' Marcus notes. The couple's belief in sustainable design has led them to champion restored furniture over new. 'Some of the most beautiful furniture ever created is abandoned or discarded. Restoring these pieces is not only sustainable but preserves design heritage for future generations,' says Caroline with pride.

For the Hoggarths, this home is more than just a residence; it is a living testament to the enduring value of thoughtful design. Their approach has resulted in a space that seamlessly balances history with contemporary family life, proving that good craftsmanship – and good design – will always stand the test of time.

Find Caroline at afoldofchairs.com and Marcus at native.com

no.17



GARDEN
'I knew by decking this space I'd get more use of it. As soon as the sun comes out, I'll set myself up here with a book or invite people round for drinks. It's like my living room with added sunshine,' says Kerry. Log cabin summerhouse, BillyOh. Try Milano rocking chair set, The Range. Similar parasol, John Lewis

Natural habitat

With rooms full of greenery and a sociable outdoor living area, Kerry Harris' home blurs the lines between inside and outside

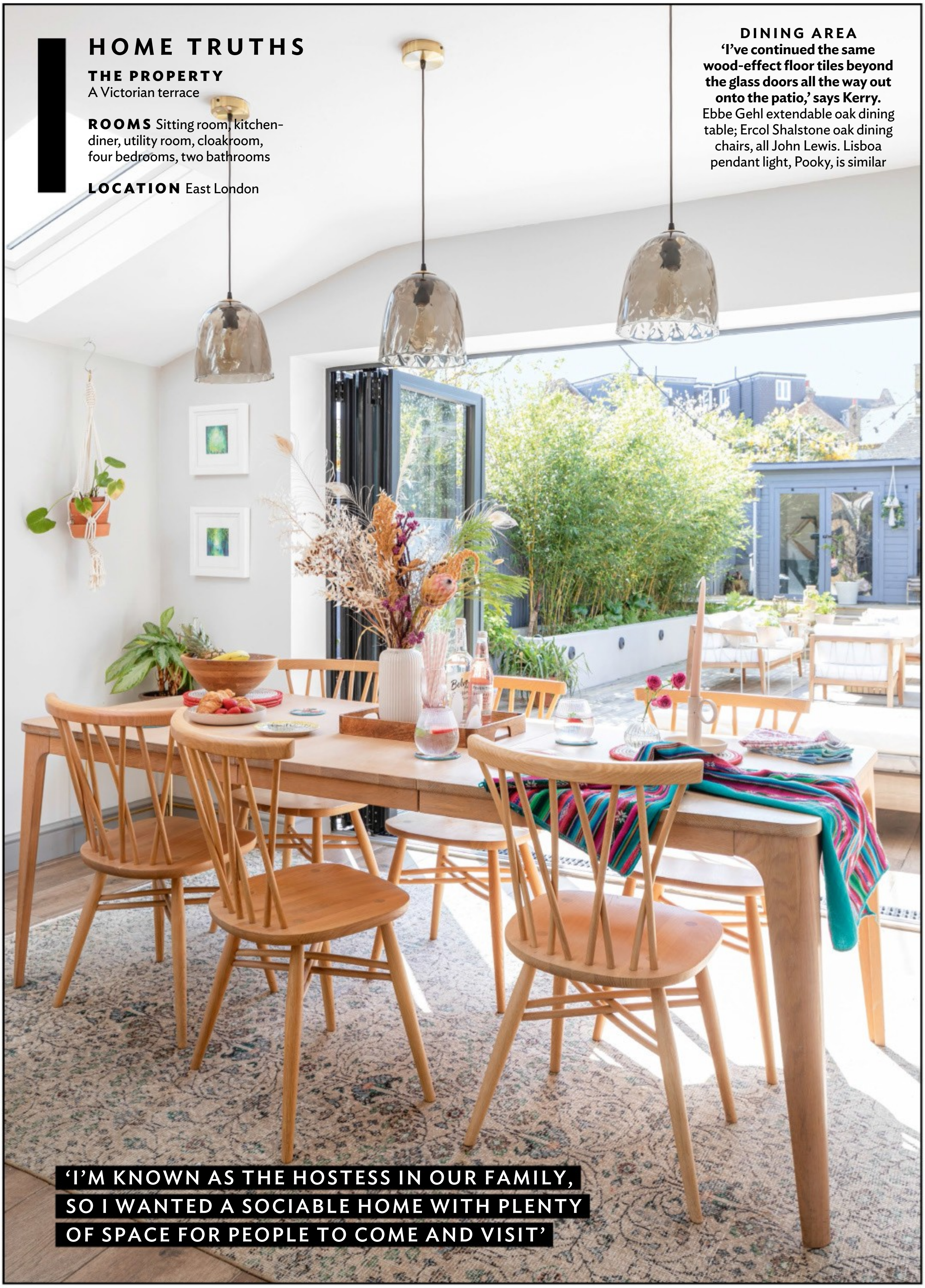
WORDS CARRIE MITCHELL | **PHOTOGRAPHY** ADELINA ILIEV | **STYLING** HOLLY PHILLIPS

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY
A Victorian terrace

ROOMS Sitting room, kitchen-diner, utility room, cloakroom, four bedrooms, two bathrooms

LOCATION East London



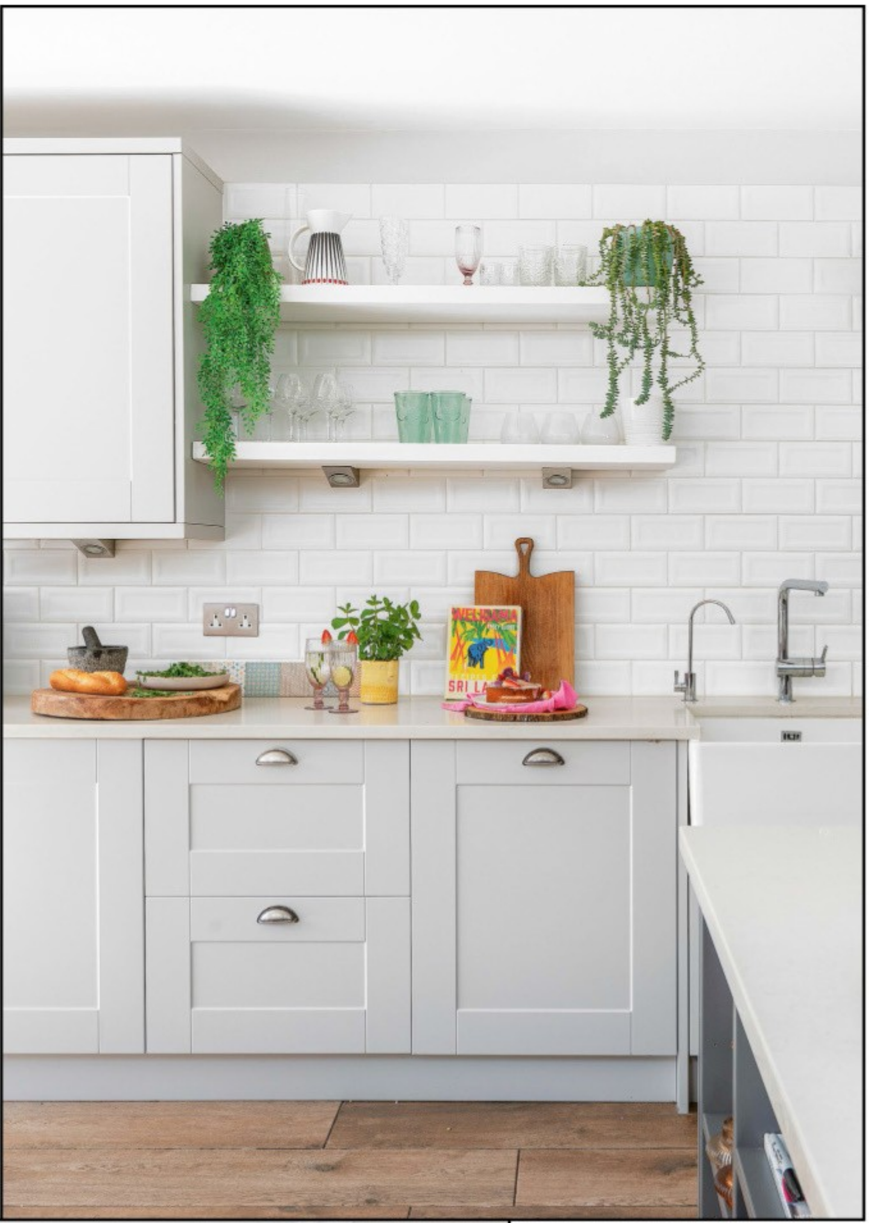
DINING AREA
'I've continued the same wood-effect floor tiles beyond the glass doors all the way out onto the patio,' says Kerry. Ebbe Gehl extendable oak dining table; Ercol Shalstone oak dining chairs, all John Lewis. Lisboa pendant light, Pooky, is similar

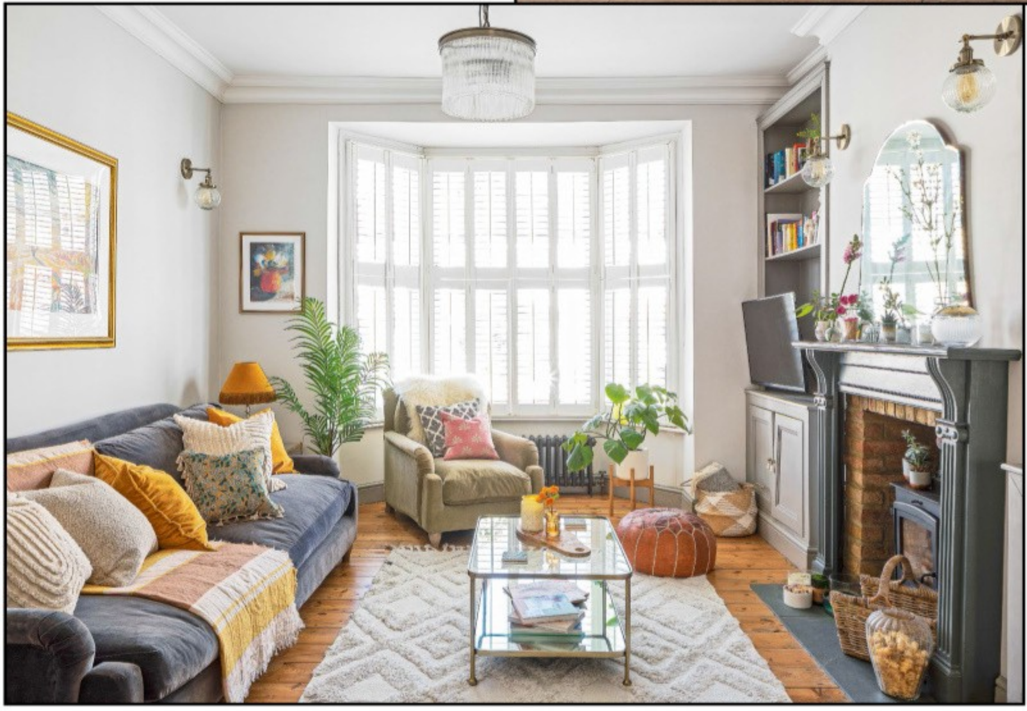
> 'I'M KNOWN AS THE HOSTESS IN OUR FAMILY, SO I WANTED A SOCIABLE HOME WITH PLENTY OF SPACE FOR PEOPLE TO COME AND VISIT'

WHY DID YOU BUY THIS HOUSE? Having lived in the Essex countryside all my life, I wanted a home close to shops, bars and transport links into the city. I started looking in this area after my brother-in-law, who grew up in the locale, took us for a Sunday roast here. I liked the neighbourhood straight away. I saw this house for the first time on my 30th birthday. It happens to be on the same street as the house my sister had just moved to, so I was hesitant about living so close, but the house just felt right. It needed a lot of work, but I liked the layout and it still had lots of original features I loved, so I went for it.

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE ASPECT OF THE HOUSE? The fact this house still had beautiful Victorian fireplaces was a big selling point for me. I love how cosy it is in here while also feeling airy and open. I'd offered on another house nearby which had been stripped of all its original features, so it would have been much harder to add that character back in.

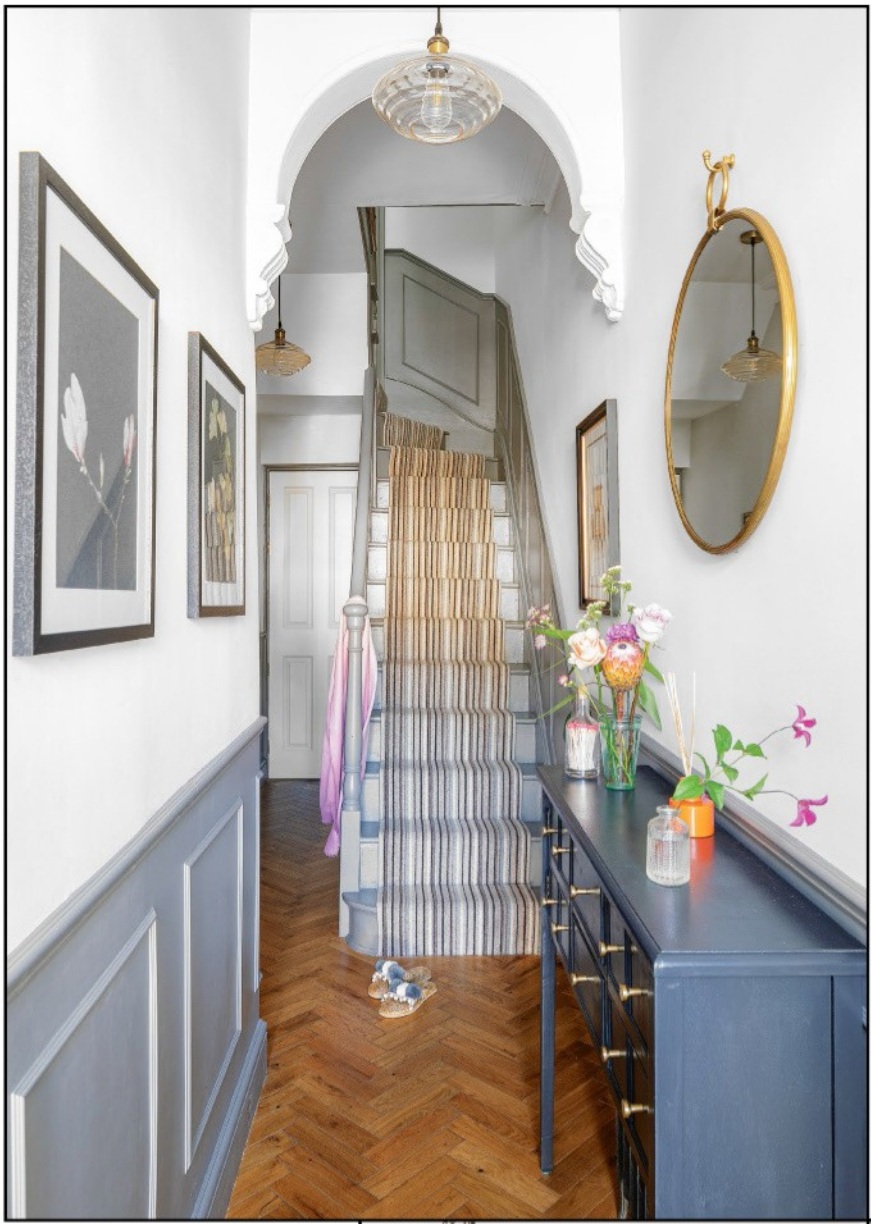
WHAT WORK HAVE YOU DONE? It feels like there wasn't a floor we didn't rip up or a wall we didn't tear down! At the time, I was living with my partner so we both threw ourselves into doing a lot of the work ourselves to save money. A damp,





KITCHEN
'After investing in a large extension, I wanted to keep costs down here, so we fitted the cabinets ourselves,' says Kerry. 'I kept wall units to a minimum to enhance the feeling of space and fitted some open shelves to display my favourite glassware and trailing plants.'
Shaker units in Pebble Gray, Wren Kitchens. Try Victoria metro tiles in Matt White, Victorian Plumbing. English White quartz worktop, Gemini Worktops, is similar

SITTING ROOM
'I love how cosy it is in here while also feeling airy and open,' says Kerry. 'The fact this house still had beautiful Victorian fireplaces was a big selling point for me.'
Walls in Ammonite, Farrow & Ball. Helston chandelier, The White Company. Jonesy sofa, Loaf, is similar. Fire surround in Down Pipe, Farrow & Ball. Diamond tufted rug, Habitat, has this look



uneven floor meant replacing all the rotten floor joists, adding insulation and laying a new floor ourselves. I had to go with a more modest first-floor extension than I originally wanted, but we were able to extend a whole eight metres on the ground floor, which has given me so much space for a beautiful, bright kitchen.

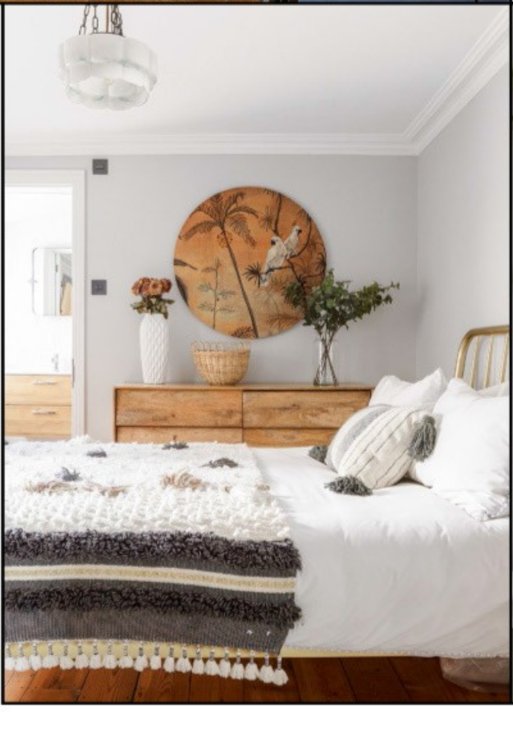
WHAT WAS YOUR VISION FOR THE HOUSE? I'm known as the hostess in our family, so I wanted a sociable home with plenty of space for people to visit. The kitchen-diner has a big dining table for family dinners and the island is where I cook and serve drinks to friends. I decided to fully deck the garden as I'm away so much for work that having a lawn would just mean coming home to crazy overgrown grass all the time. I knew I'd get much more use of the outdoor space this way too and it's ideal for barbecues.

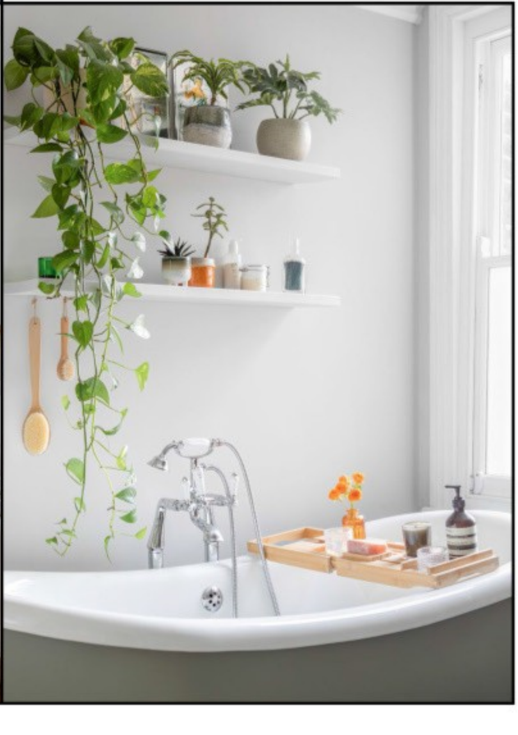
WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT LIVING HERE? After I've been away, I love coming home to a welcoming, comfortable house. In the winter, you'll usually find me relaxing on the sofa in front of the fire, or, in the warmer months, I'll be lying outside on my DIY double sunlounger. Both my sisters live on the same street now, which sounds crazy, but it's so nice to be able to have spontaneous catch-ups and dinners.

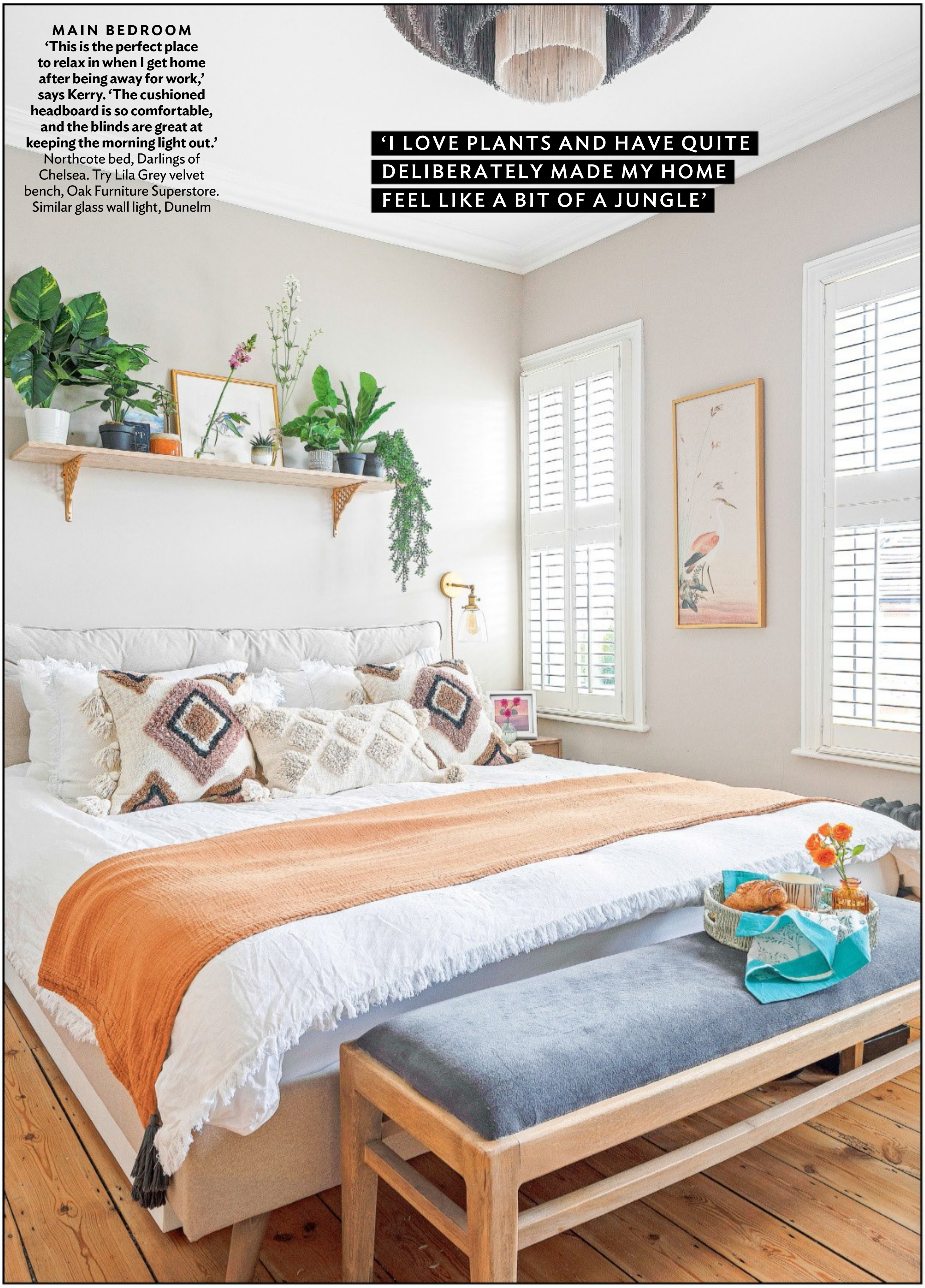
HALLWAY
Wall panelling and herringbone flooring match with the traditional architecture, while a striped stair runner adds a little fun.
Try the Abram striped stair runner, Wayfair. Greg round hanging mirror, Perch & Parrow, has this look. The Neith oval reeded glass and brass pendant light, Mullan, is similar

BEDROOM
'I think the neutral decor paired with wooden furniture and textured accessories gives a bit of a sophisticated bohemian vibe in here, especially with the golden bed,' says Kerry.
Alana brass double bed, Made. Try Valente chest of drawers, Swoon

BATHROOM
'I designed this space myself and the priority was always to fit a free-standing bath in,' says Kerry.
Similar grey-painted free-standing bath, Victorian Plumbing. Faux plants, Ikea, have the same look

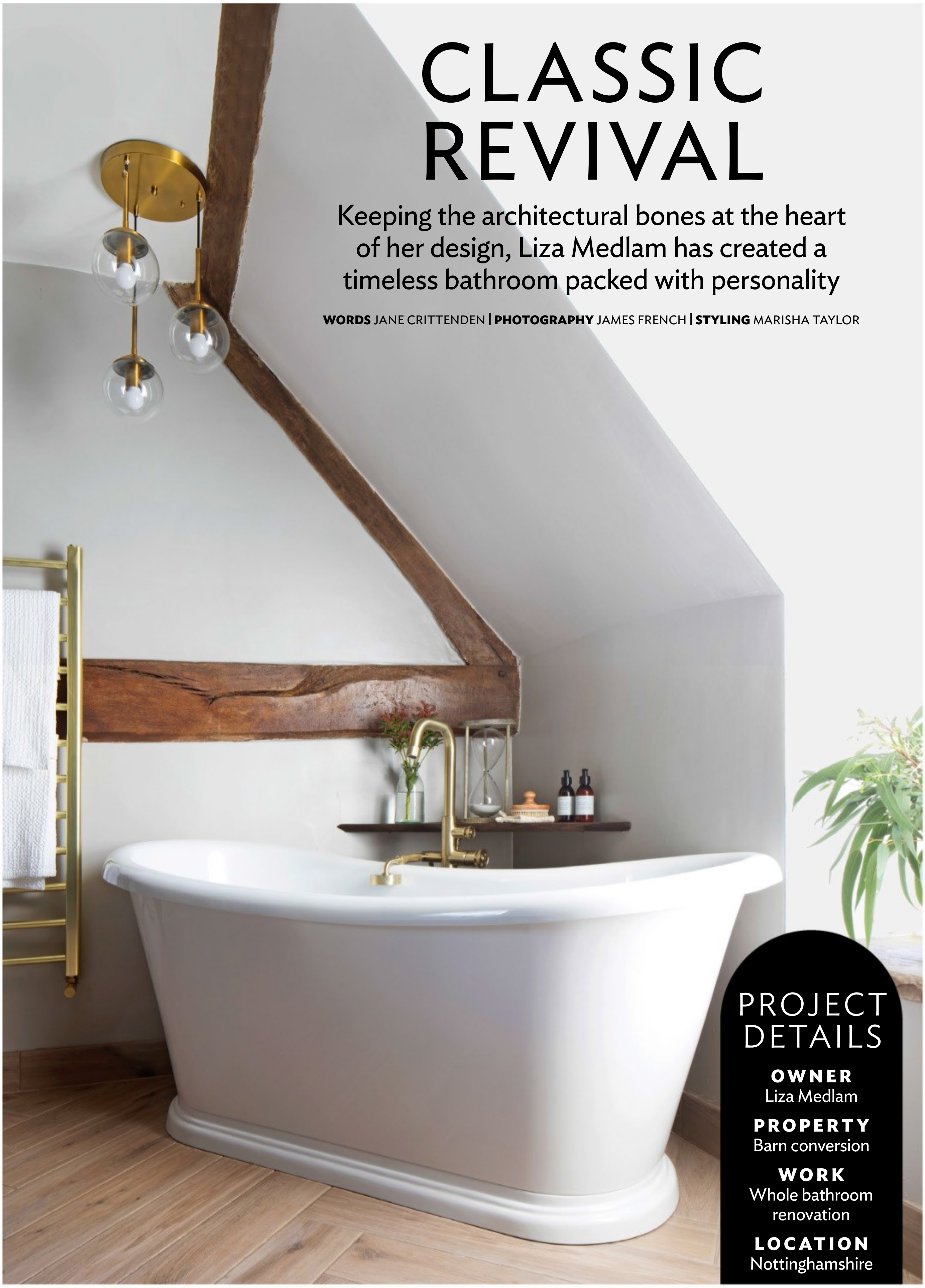






MAIN BEDROOM
'This is the perfect place to relax in when I get home after being away for work,' says Kerry. 'The cushioned headboard is so comfortable, and the blinds are great at keeping the morning light out.' Northcote bed, Darlings of Chelsea. Try Lila Grey velvet bench, Oak Furniture Superstore. Similar glass wall light, Dunelm

> 'I LOVE PLANTS AND HAVE QUITE DELIBERATELY MADE MY HOME FEEL LIKE A BIT OF A JUNGLE'



CLASSIC REVIVAL

Keeping the architectural bones at the heart of her design, Liza Medlam has created a timeless bathroom packed with personality

WORDS JANE CRITTENDEN | **PHOTOGRAPHY** JAMES FRENCH | **STYLING** MARISHA TAYLOR

PROJECT DETAILS

OWNER
Liza Medlam

PROPERTY
Barn conversion

WORK
Whole bathroom renovation

LOCATION
Nottinghamshire

no.18

When Liza and her husband Martin spotted a converted barn for sale, they decided it was time to move from their house in town. 'This had lots of nooks and crannies and its own character, says Liza. 'Sometimes a house can pick you – and here felt perfect for us.'

1 STARTING POINT

'We changed our en suite first and this encouraged me to start thinking about renovating our main bathroom. It's mostly used by our daughter, Maggie-Mae, but I love coming in here to have a bath. I was keen to tie in the colours with the rest of our home. I really loved the old door, exposed timber beams and the stone windowsill, so any changes needed to enhance these original features.'

2 KEY DETAILS

'I knew I wanted wall panelling and interesting tiles to give the room impact and a traditional feel. I love the original stone in my kitchen wall, so I searched for something similar to go with the exposed wood. Our kitchen cupboards are in Farrow & Ball's Railings and we used the same colour on the panelling here. I love the warmth of the gold fittings against this blue-black tone.'

3 LAYOUT TWEAKS

'I was keen to have a double basin, so to fit one in, I moved the shower into a void where the towel cupboard had been. My fitter was able to add a new storage cupboard next to the toilet when he extended the wall to hide the cistern and soil pipe. The bath is in the same place, but we angled it towards the window.'

4 FIT OUT

'I'd been to the Easy Bathrooms showroom when I changed my en suite and had been pleasantly surprised by their range of choice. Walking around here now, I found the beautiful curved double basin. The shop also recommended a fitter, Richard Sidall (Sid) from RS Bathroom Designs. He's brilliant and we made a good team. It's been lovely seeing my ideas come alive in our new bathroom and I'm so pleased with the outcome.'

*easybathrooms.com; @rsbathroomdesigns_*

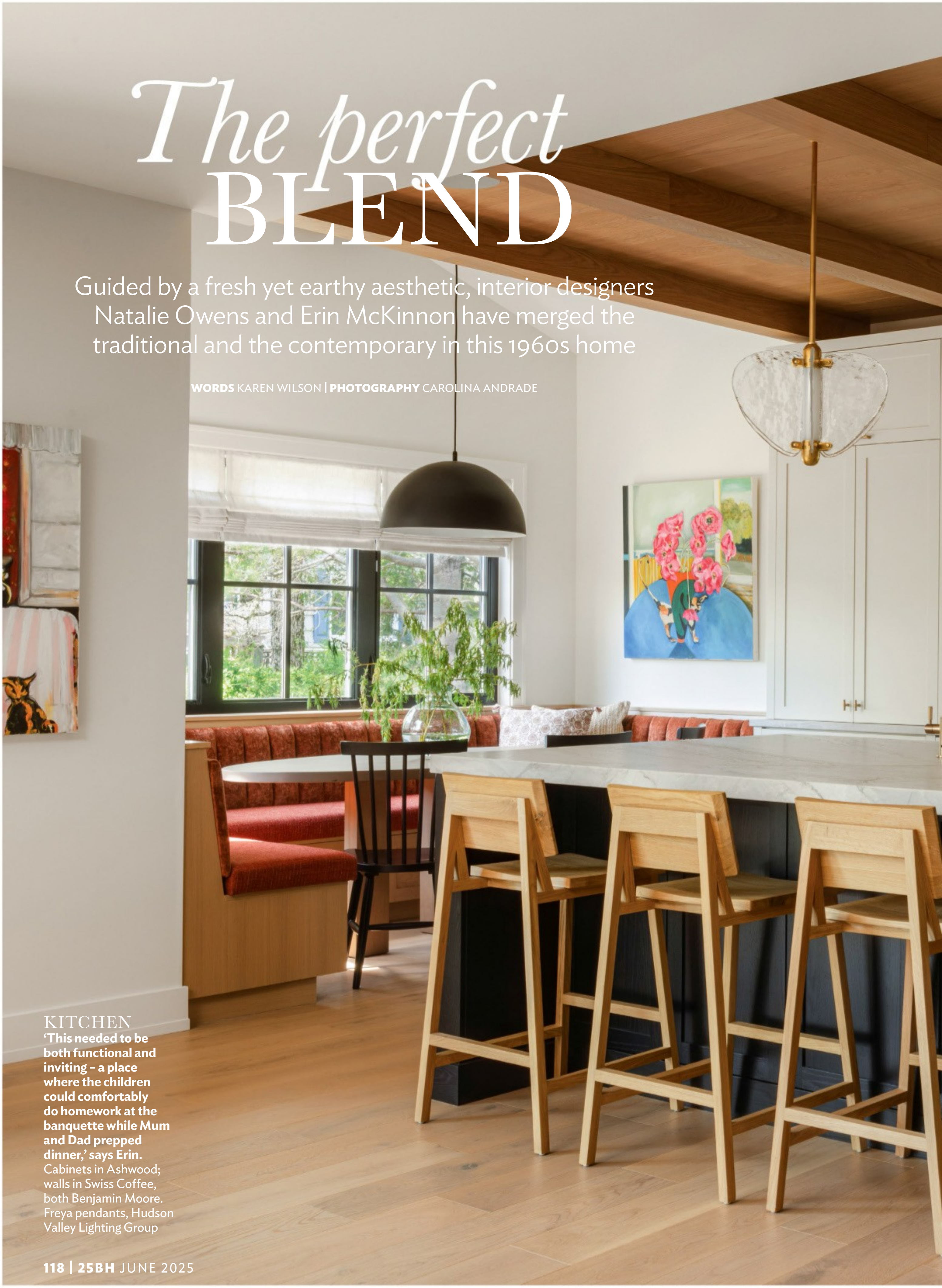
HARMONIOUS SCHEME

Liza chose materials that complement the original features. Burlington Admiral **bath**, QS Supplies. Urban freestanding **bath shower mixer tap** in Brushed Gold; Urban **basin mixer tap** in Brushed Gold; Laine double console **basin and wooden stand**; Royle wetroom walk-in glass **screen** with hinged panel is similar; Zena square **shower kit** in Brushed Gold is similar; Topeka Noce stone porcelain **wall tiles**, Easy Bathrooms. **Panelling in** Railings, Farrow & Ball. Civic Brown **floor tiles**, STC Tiles and Bathrooms. Try Exemplar Lighting Swan **wall light**, The Lighting Company. Elodie three-light cluster **ceiling light** is similar, Dunelm

The perfect BLEND

Guided by a fresh yet earthy aesthetic, interior designers Natalie Owens and Erin McKinnon have merged the traditional and the contemporary in this 1960s home

WORDS KAREN WILSON | **PHOTOGRAPHY** CAROLINA ANDRADE



KITCHEN
'This needed to be both functional and inviting – a place where the children could comfortably do homework at the banquette while Mum and Dad prepped dinner,' says Erin. Cabinets in Ashwood; walls in Swiss Coffee, both Benjamin Moore. Freya pendants, Hudson Valley Lighting Group

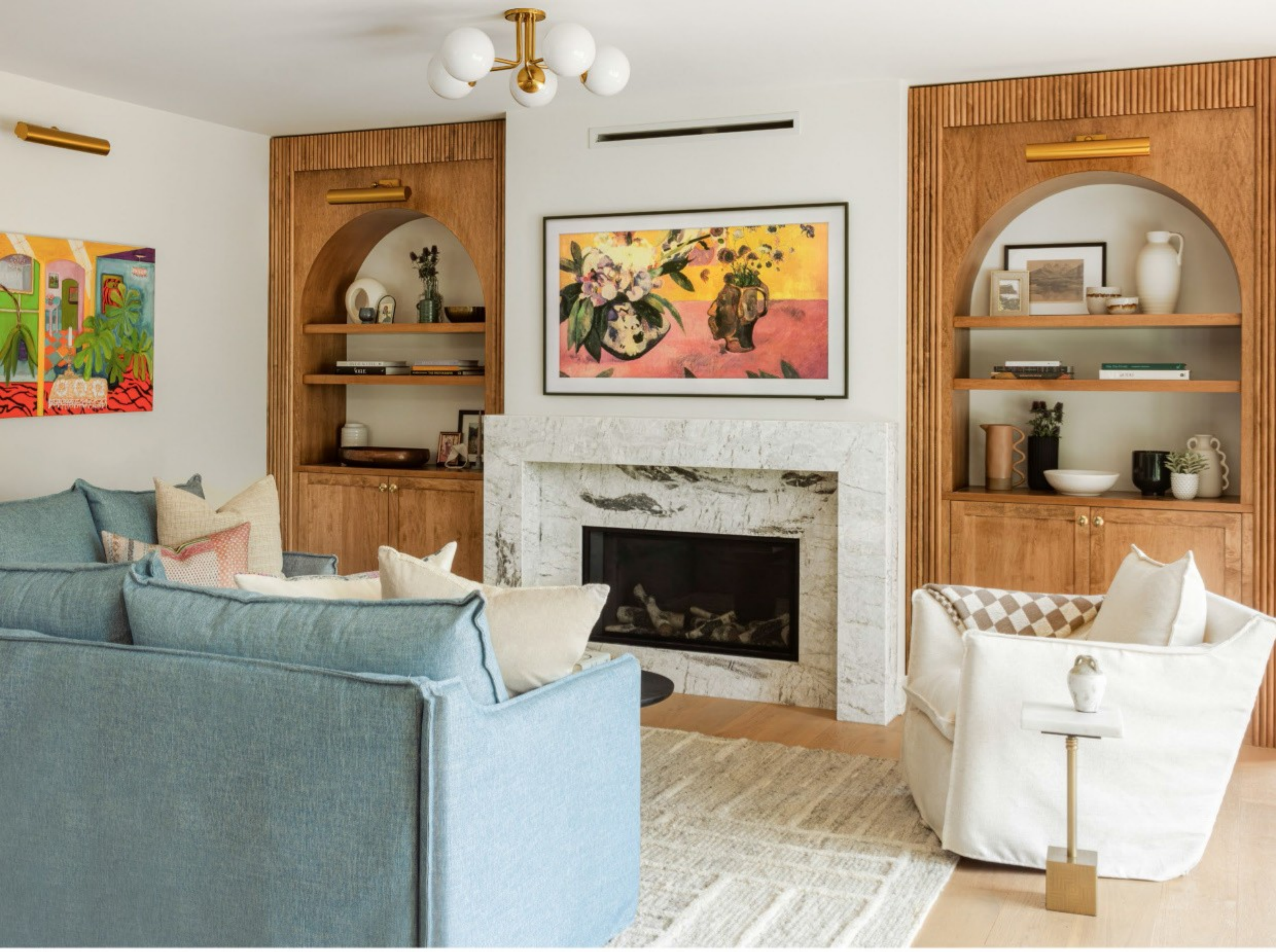
no. 19

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY
Detached 1960s house

ROOMS Kitchen-diner/living area, boot room/laundry room, walk-in pantry, cloakroom, hidden office, four bedrooms, two bathrooms

LOCATION
Nova Scotia, Canada



WHY DID YOUR CLIENTS BUY THIS HOUSE? The couple loved the prime location in one of Halifax's most sought-after neighbourhoods. With two children, aged six and eight, they appreciated having a school within walking distance and being a 30-minute drive to the ocean.

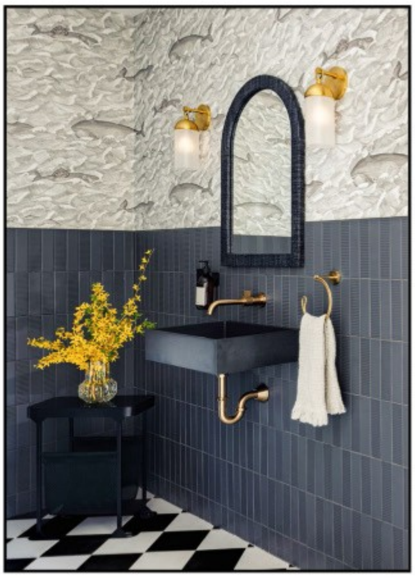
HOW DID YOU COME TO BE INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT? Our interior design studio, Stil James, worked with Lily's father on his waterfront home and Mike was our corporate real estate broker who helped us secure our first office space, so the connection felt natural.

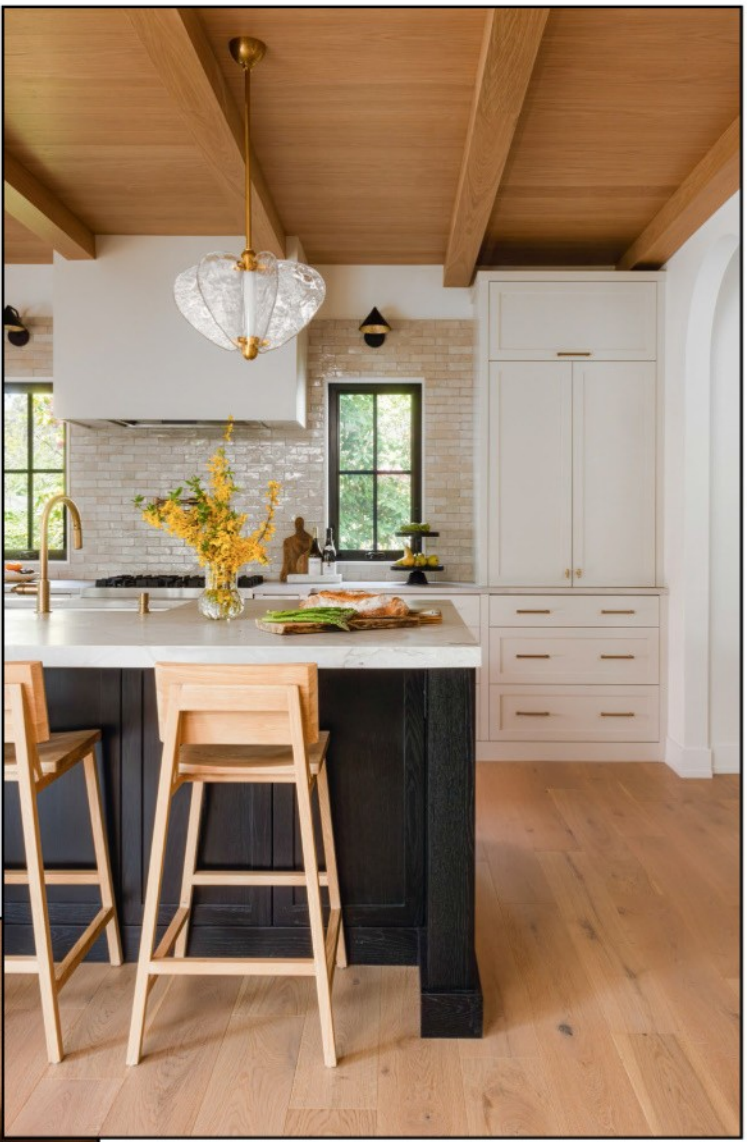
HOW INVOLVED WERE THE HOMEOWNERS? Very – but in the best way! They trusted us to curate the right selections, keeping choices streamlined while allowing us to lead the creative direction. Our role was to ensure everything aligned with the aesthetic they loved. At the same time, they worked closely with Mike's best friend, architect David Bourque, who was ahead of us in shaping the structural vision for the addition.

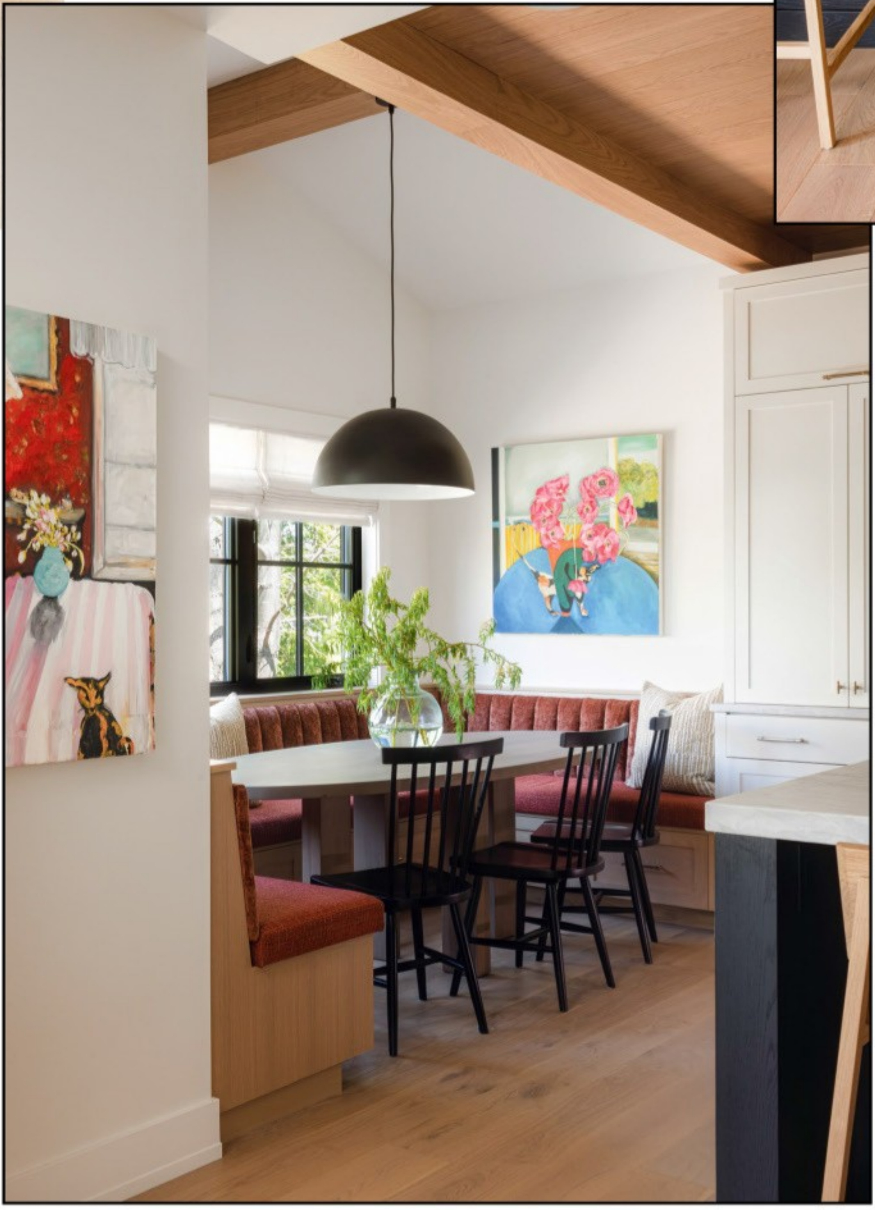
WHAT WAS THEIR STYLE AND BRIEF? Lily leaned more contemporary, while Mike preferred a traditional aesthetic, so our goal was to blend both styles into a seamless space. We kept the palette neutral yet warm, ensuring the home felt inviting. Various wood species were used throughout, adding depth and cohesion. As we opened up spaces and added vaulted ceilings, these layered elements helped maintain a sense of cosiness and character.

WHAT WERE THEIR BIGGEST PRIORITIES? With two busy, homebody kids and Lily working from home a few times a week, the space needed to be both durable and comfortable.

'THE ALCOVES IN THE LIVING AREA POP THANKS TO THE SLEEK FLUTED PANELLING WHICH ALSO ADDS WARMTH'







LIVING AREA

'We built the colour palette around a few standout fabrics, such as the warm blue of the sofas which set the tone in here,' says Erin. Dockyard sectional sofa and armchair, Thornbloom. The Lautrec picture light, Pooky, would work here. Balance multi-arm chandelier flush, Heal's, is a good alternative

CLOAKROOM

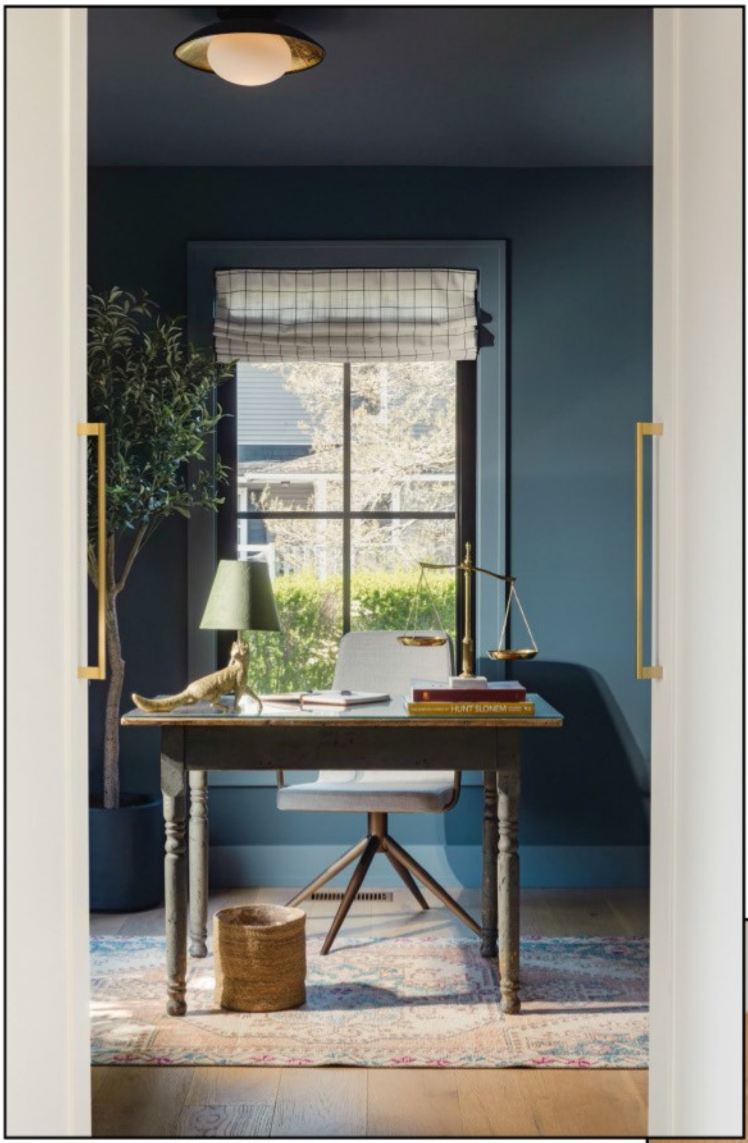
'Mike always had a laugh when we suggested birds or quirky animals for the walls,' says Natalie. 'But in the end, we won him over with charming details like this wallpaper which adds a touch of whimsy to the home's refined feel.' Melville wallpaper, Cole & Son. Emory wall sconces, Mitzi. The Aura Matte Black wall-hung stone basin, Aquaroc, is similar

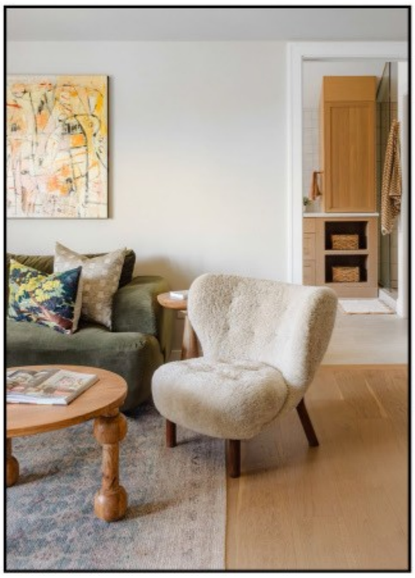
DINING AREA

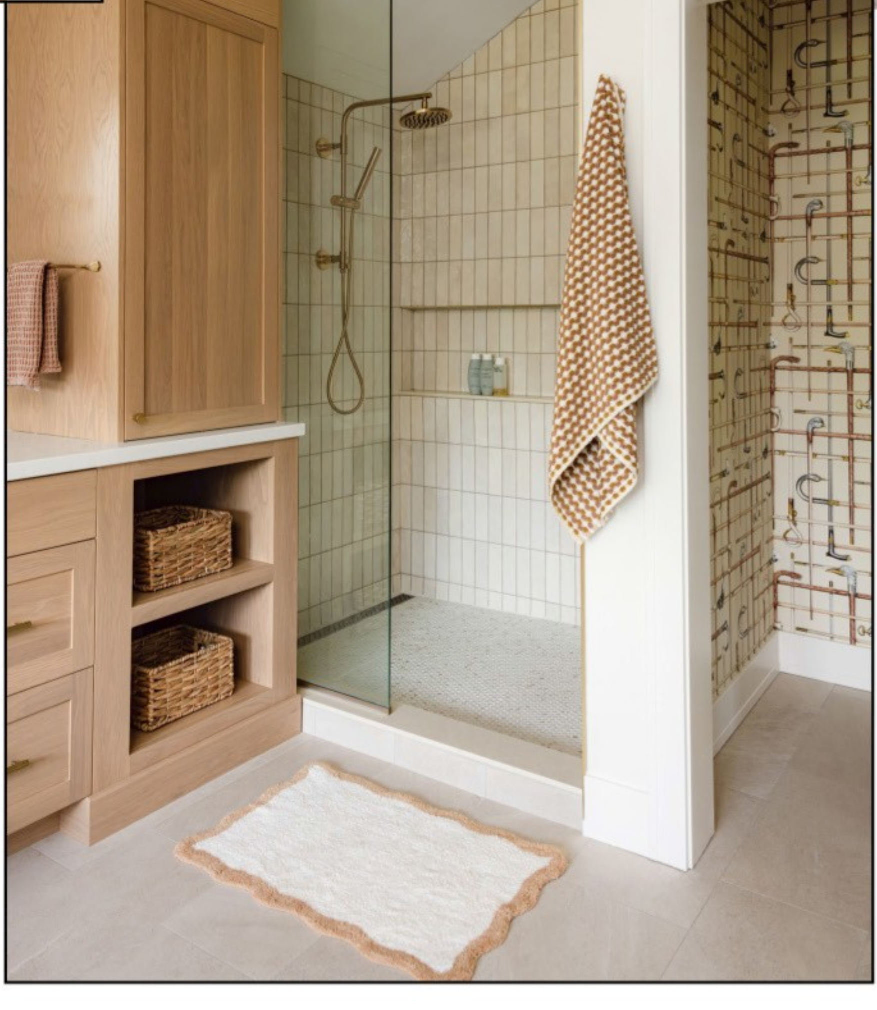
The kitchen banquette adds a playful touch with fun tweed upholstery. 'At first glance, it reads as amber,' says Natalie. 'But up close, you can see vibrant hot pink threads woven through the seat.' Banquette seat upholstered in Smart 35396-24; backrest in Smart 35392-24, both Kravet. Juni Black Ash dining chairs, Crate & Barrel. Peridot pendant, Regina Andrew

KITCHEN

'Creating that sense of togetherness was key for the family,' says Erin. 'They wanted a space that kept them connected, whether it was weekend mornings with coffee or the kids watching a show while they cooked.' The Ethnicraft oak bar stool, 4 Living, is a similar design. Try Cone Grafene wall lamp, Artemest







OFFICE

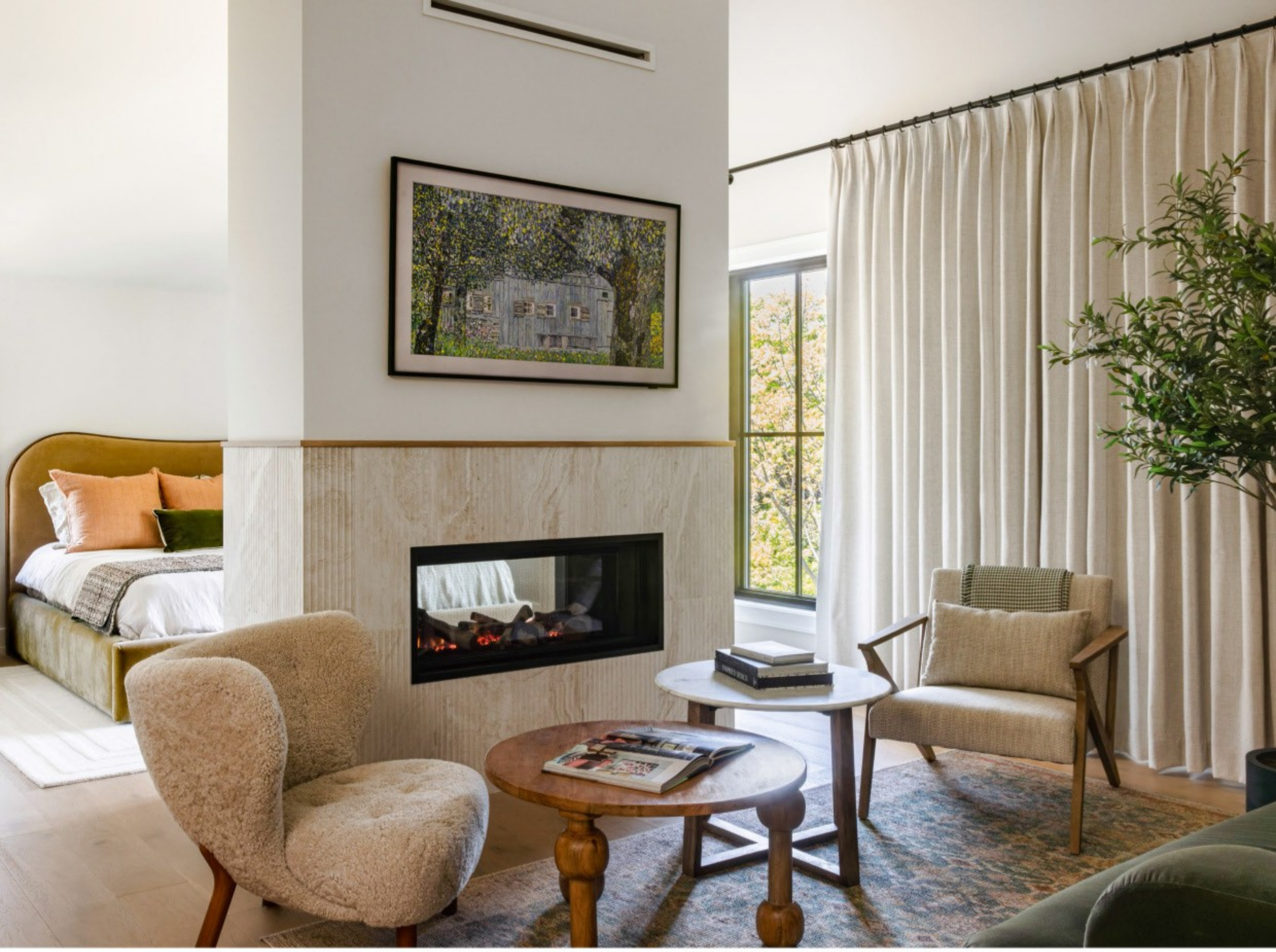
'Architect David Bourque designed a seamless wall of cabinetry that concealed two doors, leading to Mike's moody workspace,' says Natalie. Walls in Templeton Gray, Benjamin Moore. Gallery Direct Mustique French Colonial desk, Furniture World, has a similar style. Try Vinterior for antique brass scales

MAIN EN SUITE

Beige tones and brass fittings create a warm ambience, while the wallpaper adds a fun, quirky touch. Bastoni wallpaper in Cream by Lee Jofa, Cole & Son. Nettuno Jute wall tiles, Claybrook, are a stylish alternative. Lagos exposed three-way thermostatic shower, Nôsa, has this style

MAIN BEDROOM

'Unlike the rest of the home, where durability was the main focus, we could lean into luxury here,' explains Natalie. 'For instance, the camel velvet bed adds warmth and sophistication to their sanctuary.' An olive velvet love seat gives Lily a comfortable spot for work calls. Benito sofa, Four Hands. Little Petra VB1 armchairs by &Tradition, Maven. *Mesmerize* artwork (above sofa) by Sobo Artz, The Prow Gallery, Halifax. *Farmhouse in Upper Austria* artwork (above fireplace) by Gustav Klimt. Caldwell Camel Brown oak wood bed by Jake Arnold, Crate & Barrel. Duncan nightstand, Four Hands



They wanted materials that could withstand spills yet still feel inviting for hosting. Storage was also key.

WAS MAJOR BUILDING WORK REQUIRED? The entire back of the home was opened up to create a spacious kitchen and living area. Above this, we designed a serene main bedroom with en suite. At the front, spaces like the mudroom, office and powder room were expanded, giving these hardworking areas the square footage they needed to be both practical and comfortable.

WHAT PROBLEMS DID YOU OVERCOME WITH YOUR DESIGN? The original plan featured a lot of white walls and modern wood slats, but as we got deeper into the process, we realised our clients actually gravitated towards a more traditional feel. To ensure the home didn't end up feeling too modern or stark, we layered in unexpected textures and classic wall treatments to create warmth and character.

WHAT WAS THE MOST SATISFYING ASPECT OF THIS PROJECT? Staging the home and seeing the final art and decor pieces melt seamlessly into the space was so rewarding. Sometimes that last 10% can be tricky to get right, but here, everything felt effortlessly finished and lived in.

WHAT IS YOUR ADVICE FOR CREATING A SUCCESSFUL SCHEME? Don't feel locked into one colour palette. Our living area leaned into softer blues and a subtle nautical feel, while the dining and kitchen spaces embraced earthier tones. A strong designer can make different palettes feel cohesive, ensuring they complement each other while still bringing variation and depth. ㉕

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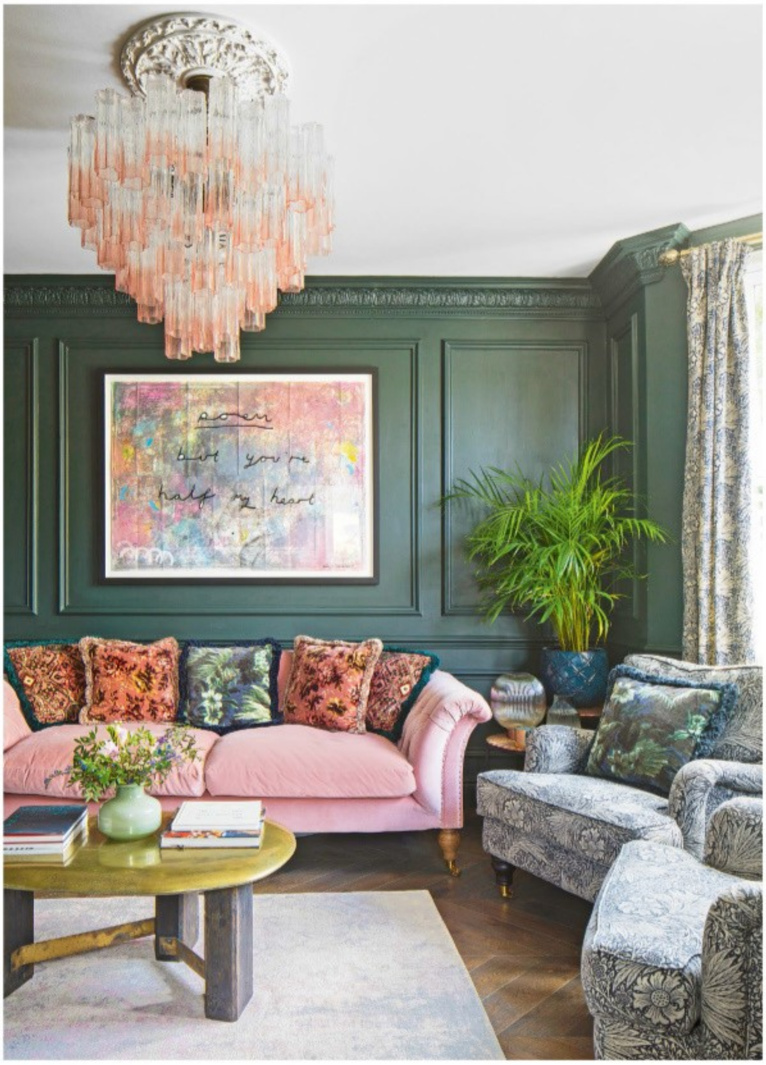
no. 20

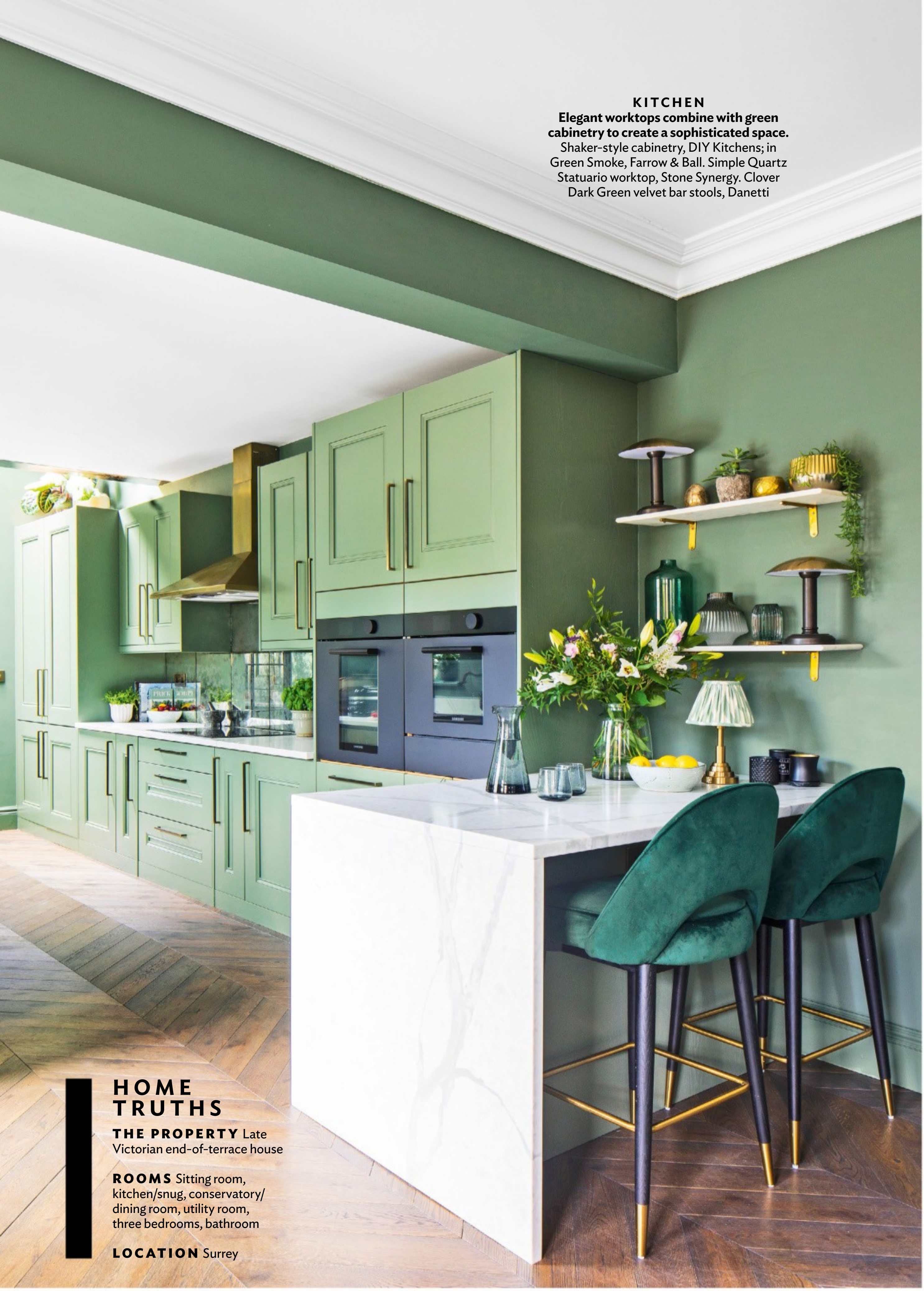
Style POINTS

Inspired by their love of art, colour and well-curated spaces, Laura and Dan Barfield did a top-to-toe renovation to create their ideal family home

WORDS MARISHA TAYLOR | **PHOTOGRAPHY** JAMES FRENCH



SITTING ROOM
The couple wanted this room to be their little escape. 'The colours and patterns are so warm and inviting,' says Laura. Similar Oscar sofa in Dusty Rose; Bluebell armchairs, all Sofa.com. Artwork by Gommie. Walls in Studio Green, Farrow & Ball



KITCHEN
Elegant worktops combine with green cabinetry to create a sophisticated space. Shaker-style cabinetry, DIY Kitchens; in Green Smoke, Farrow & Ball. Simple Quartz Statuario worktop, Stone Synergy. Clover Dark Green velvet bar stools, Danetti

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY Late Victorian end-of-terrace house

ROOMS Sitting room, kitchen/snug, conservatory/dining room, utility room, three bedrooms, bathroom

LOCATION Surrey

WHAT MADE YOU LOOK FOR A NEW PROPERTY? Dan and I spent six years living in a cool warehouse-style basement flat in Crystal Palace. It was our first home together and perfectly suited our lives as young professionals in London. However, when our first son Oakley arrived, it was time for a new chapter – a family home with a garden in a more wholesome environment. We focused on charming, commutable areas in Surrey, near the Thames and surrounded by beautiful rolling countryside.

WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THIS HOUSE? We were searching for a period property with character and space, hoping to renovate and create our dream home. We had viewed many Victorian townhouse-style properties, but nothing felt quite right until we found this one. We were instantly drawn to the abundance of light pouring in through the hallway windows – after six years in a basement flat, this was a major selling point. The huge back garden meant there was potential to extend the property and design our ideal kitchen, and the conservatory was stunning, with intricate metalwork that harmonised beautifully with the original details the house still retained. We knew that with the right love and attention, this property could become something truly special.

WHAT WORK NEEDED DOING TO THE PROPERTY? The house has undergone a complete top-to-toe renovation. We rewired and

> ‘Adding the extension has made the biggest difference in how we live in the house – the new layout is more spacious and connected’

KITCHEN
Some of the cabinet doors have been wrapped in brass to add depth, transforming the off-the-shelf kitchen into a bespoke-looking space.
Ecohardwood flooring, Ecowood. Steel door, DM Window Solutions

SNUG
A skilful mix of patterns adds luxe elements into the scheme.
Pouffe in Opia in Petrol, House of Hackney. Alwinton snuggler, Sofas & Stuff; in Morris & Co Bluebell fabric, Jane Clayton. Large artwork is a commission by Amelia Mullins

EVERY MORNING WE'VE GOT A NEW CHANCE

CONSERVATORY
‘We knew we could elevate the space by repainting all the ironwork and changing the flooring,’ says Laura. ‘We took inspiration from the beautiful orangery at Babington House, where we were married.’
Verdigris brass table with oak base, Quirky Interiors. Lola chairs, Dusk

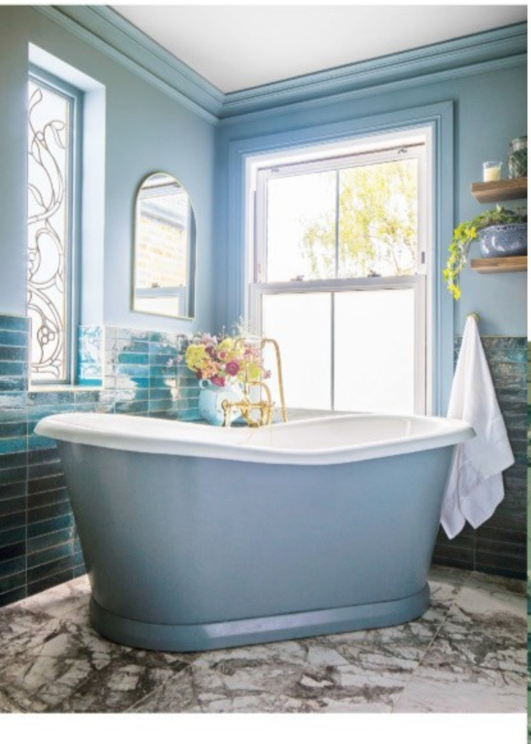
replumbed the entire property, repointed all the brickwork and knocked through the small kitchen into the dining room, adding a four-metre rear extension to create more space for a kitchen and utility room. Every room has been stripped back and replastered, period features added or restored, ceilings underpinned and new floors laid throughout. The windows were the only feature we didn't need to replace as they had been recently updated.

WHAT CHALLENGES DID YOU FACE? Most of the building work took place during lockdown, and we moved between our parents' houses, which was stressful at times. Despite the challenges, we all squashed in and made it work. I had some help with Oakley while I project-managed the renovation and Dan worked. Being furloughed gave me a creative outlet for planning the interiors, which was a silver lining among the chaos. We faced a few delays due to planning issues, but eventually we received the green light and everything came together.

ARE YOU HAPPY WITH THE RESULT? Although the full renovation has been costly and time-consuming, it allowed us to customise every detail to suit our family. We put a lot of thought into every choice to create the right feel in each room and ensure a smooth flow throughout. It truly feels like our happy place, and we couldn't be more thrilled with the result. ㉕

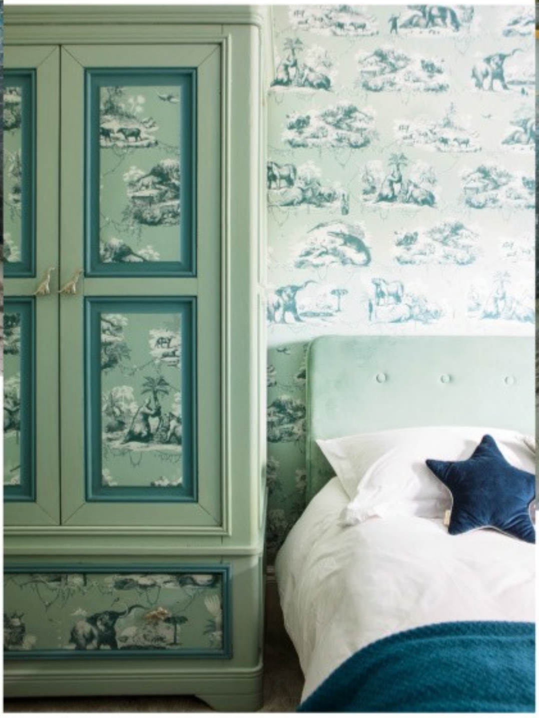
@laurarosebarfield_interiors

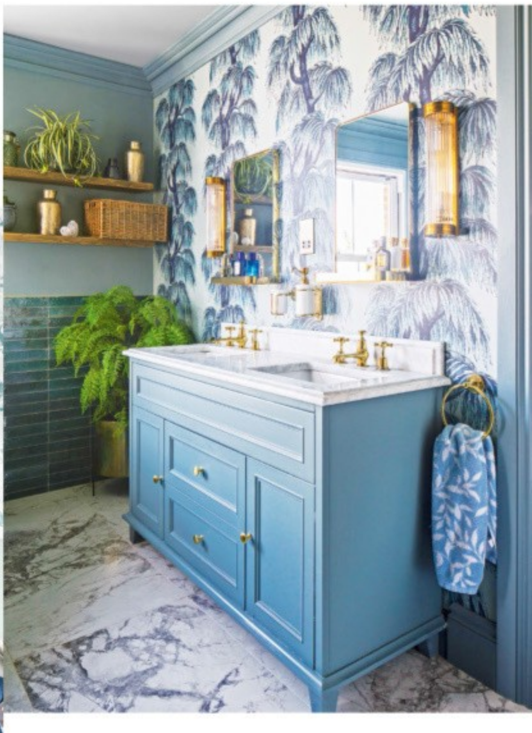
> 'Consider keeping the more permanent or expensive elements, such as joinery, classic in style so you can easily update the decor around them'



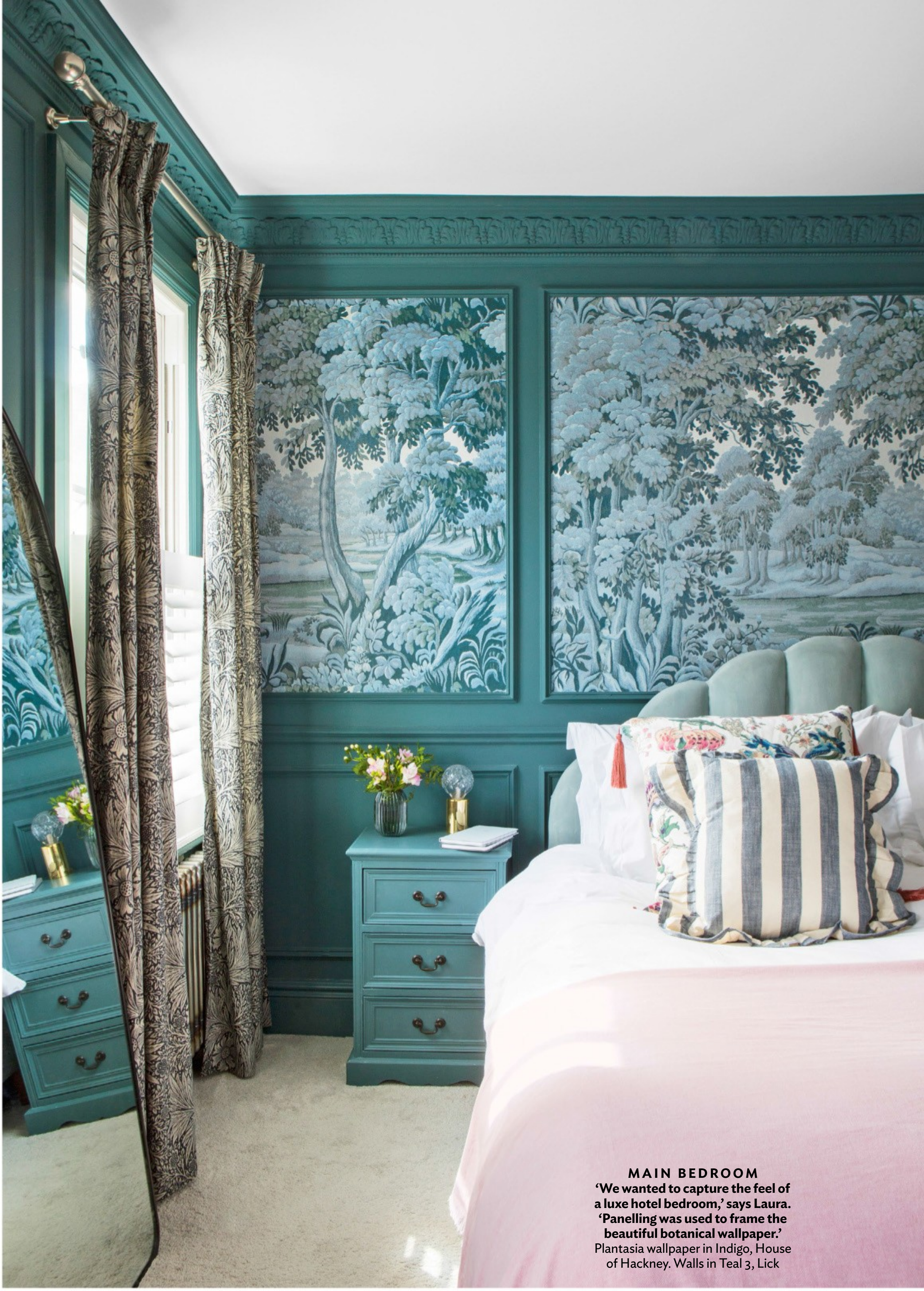
BATHROOM
The gold fixtures, glazed teal tiles and rich colours finish off the scheme, tying in with the rest of the house. Admiral double-ended bath, Burlington Bathrooms; in De Nimes, Farrow & Ball. Mimica marble-effect porcelain tiles in Iceberg; Hoxton gloss porcelain tiles in Teal, all Mandarin Stone

OAKLEY'S ROOM
'When our first son was born in Crystal Palace, this wallpaper – featuring the iconic Crystal Palace dinosaurs – just had to be the main feature of his room,' says Laura. Extinctopia wallpaper in Peppermint, Divine Savages. Dinosaur drawer knobs, Etsy





BATHROOM
The double basin vanity is a lovely piece of furniture that combines practicality with style. Babylon wallpaper in Celestial Blue, House of Hackney. Wytham double vanity with marble top, Cast Iron Bath Company



MAIN BEDROOM

'We wanted to capture the feel of a luxe hotel bedroom,' says Laura. 'Panelling was used to frame the beautiful botanical wallpaper.' Plantasia wallpaper in Indigo, House of Hackney. Walls in Teal 3, Lick

Pastures new

A move from London to the beautiful Dorset coast to restore a tired cottage has given Jane McCarthy and her husband Johnny their ideal country life

WORDS MARISHA TAYLOR | **PHOTOGRAPHY** JAMES FRENCH

no.21

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY Georgian-style cottage built in the late 1960s

ROOMS Sitting room, dining area, kitchen, cloakroom, utility/boot room, four bedrooms, three bathrooms

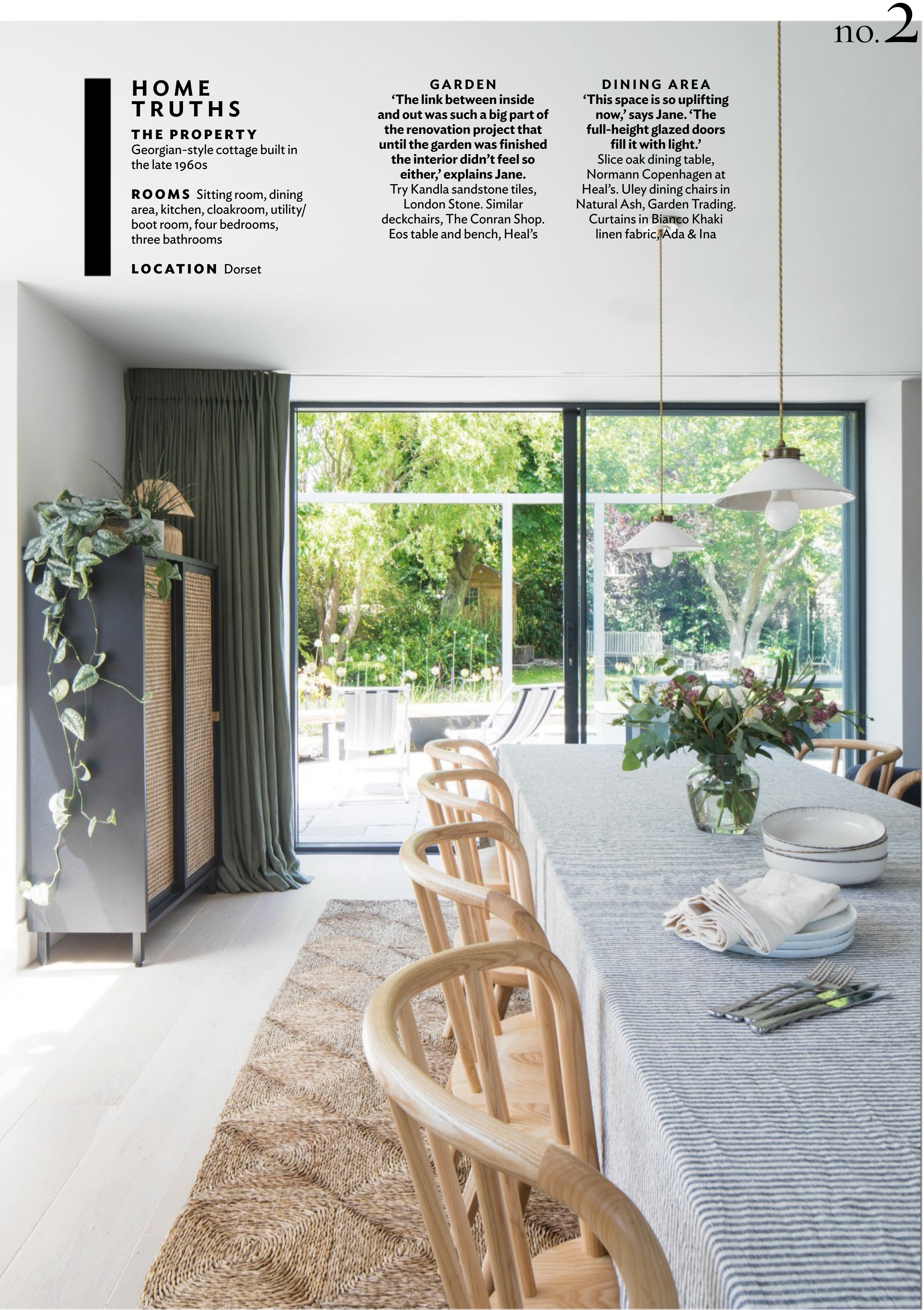
LOCATION Dorset

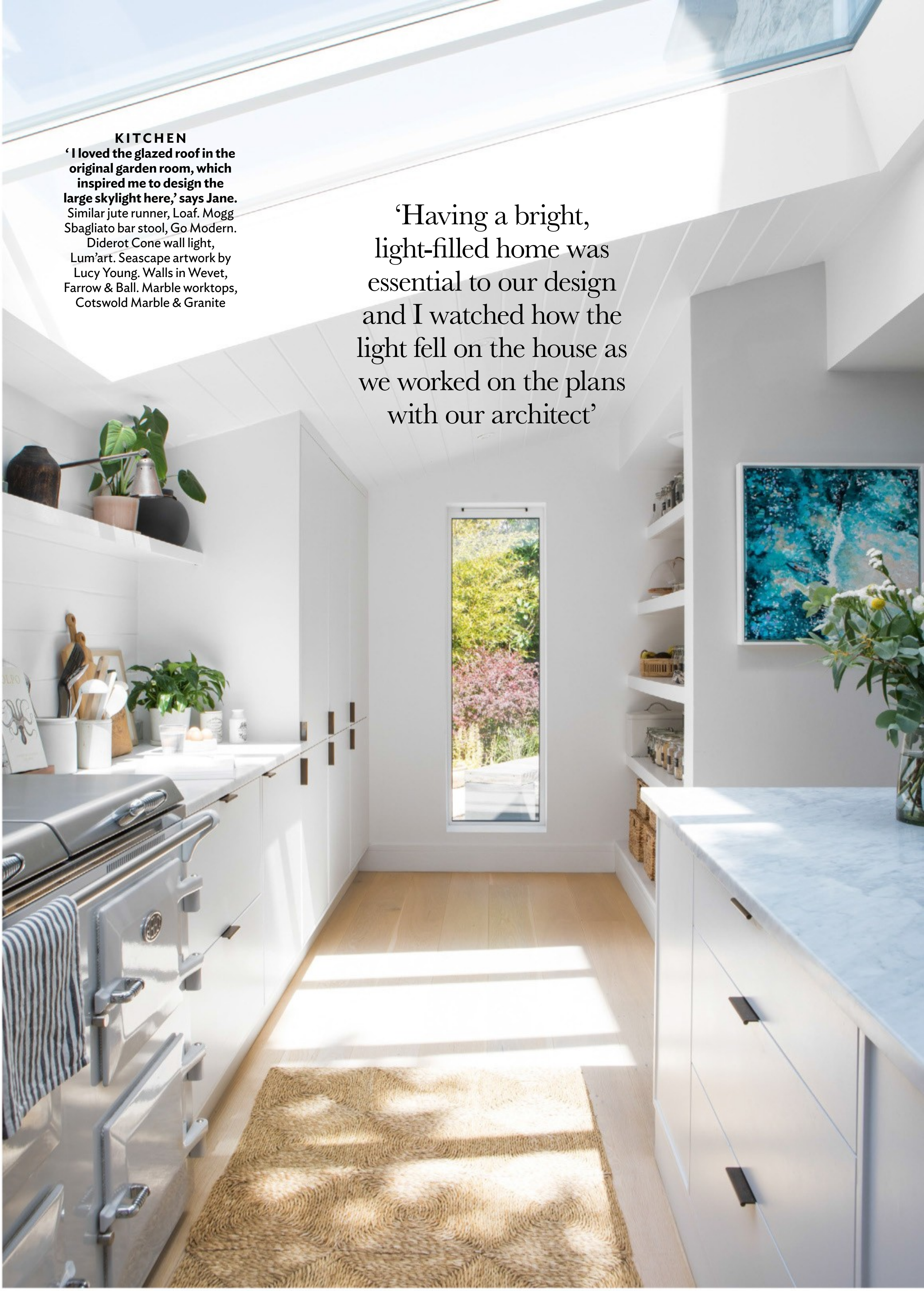
GARDEN

‘The link between inside and out was such a big part of the renovation project that until the garden was finished the interior didn’t feel so either,’ explains Jane. Try Kandla sandstone tiles, London Stone. Similar deckchairs, The Conran Shop. Eos table and bench, Heal’s

DINING AREA

‘This space is so uplifting now,’ says Jane. ‘The full-height glazed doors fill it with light.’ Slice oak dining table, Normann Copenhagen at Heal’s. Uley dining chairs in Natural Ash, Garden Trading. Curtains in Bianco Khaki linen fabric, Ada & Ina





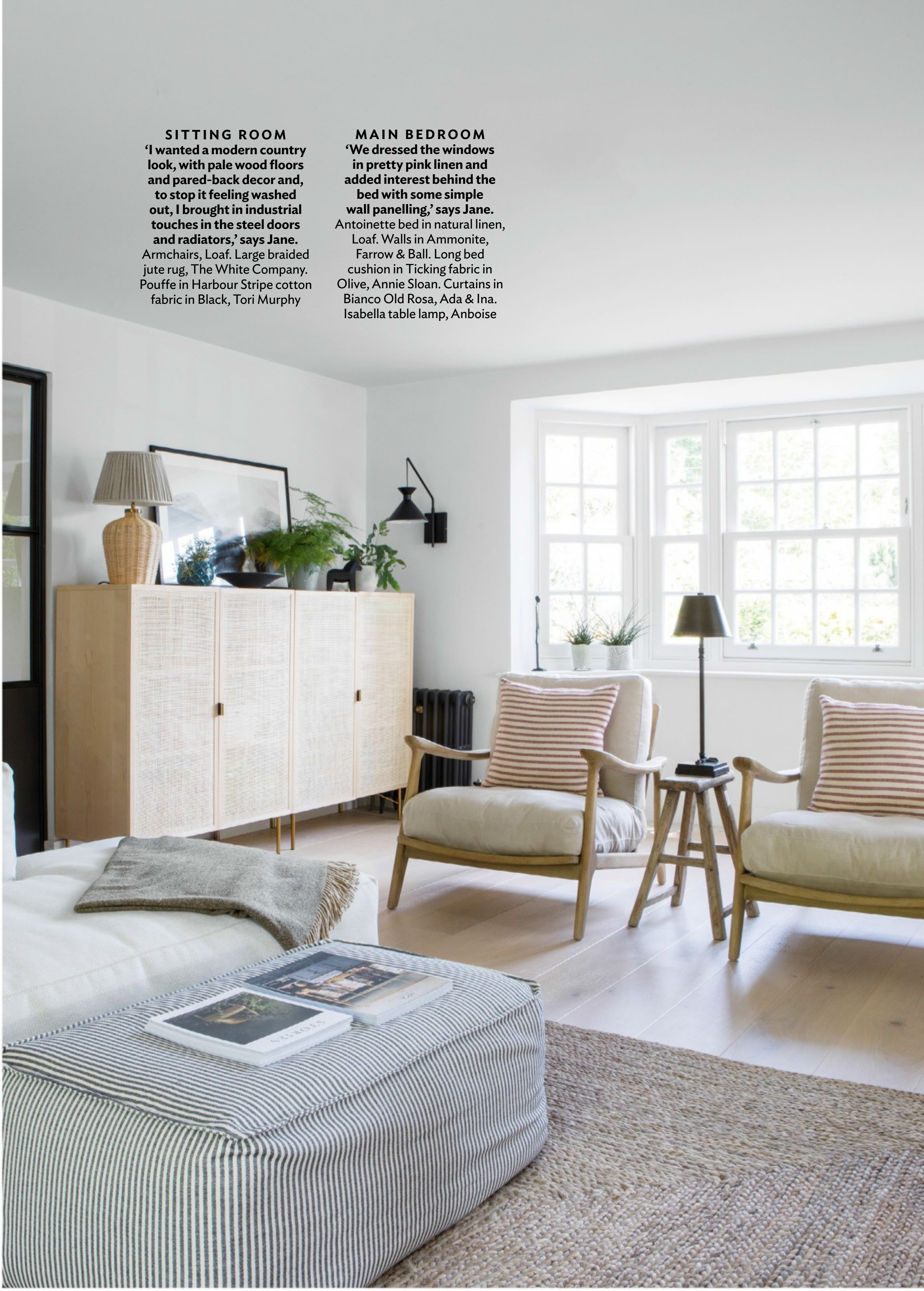
KITCHEN
'I loved the glazed roof in the original garden room, which inspired me to design the large skylight here,' says Jane. Similar jute runner, Loaf. Mogg Sbagliato bar stool, Go Modern. Diderot Cone wall light, Lum'art. Seascape artwork by Lucy Young. Walls in Wevet, Farrow & Ball. Marble worktops, Cotswold Marble & Granite

> 'Having a bright, light-filled home was essential to our design and I watched how the light fell on the house as we worked on the plans with our architect'

Leaving behind their lives in London wasn't an easy choice for Jane McCarthy and her husband Johnny, but a move to a picturesque village on the Dorset coast gave them the opportunity to complete a dream renovation project, start an interior design business and restore some balance back into their lives.

'The location was the main reason we viewed the cottage,' says Jane. 'Nestled in a picture postcard village and only a short walk through fields down to the breathtaking coastline and sea, it was everything we had envisaged leaving London for.' Although surrounded by generous, mature gardens, the cottage itself needed a little more work. It was a warren of small rooms and felt dark and dingy. 'Johnny didn't even think it was an option after our first viewing, but I could see that with some love and careful thought, it had the potential to be something special and I spent the long journey back to London convincing him!'

They moved in just before the summer in 2018, and over the following three years pretty much took the whole house back to brick. Upstairs, the layout stayed the same, but every room was replastered, redecorated and windows and bathrooms replaced. Work downstairs was more labour intensive – internal walls were knocked down between the kitchen, dining room and living room to create two large, light-filled rooms, and a side extension added to the kitchen where a timber-framed garden room had been. A small, larch-clad extension was added to the back for a utility area and everywhere was rewired and replumbed. 'Connecting



SITTING ROOM
'I wanted a modern country look, with pale wood floors and pared-back decor and, to stop it feeling washed out, I brought in industrial touches in the steel doors and radiators,' says Jane. Armchairs, Loaf. Large braided jute rug, The White Company. Pouffe in Harbour Stripe cotton fabric in Black, Tori Murphy

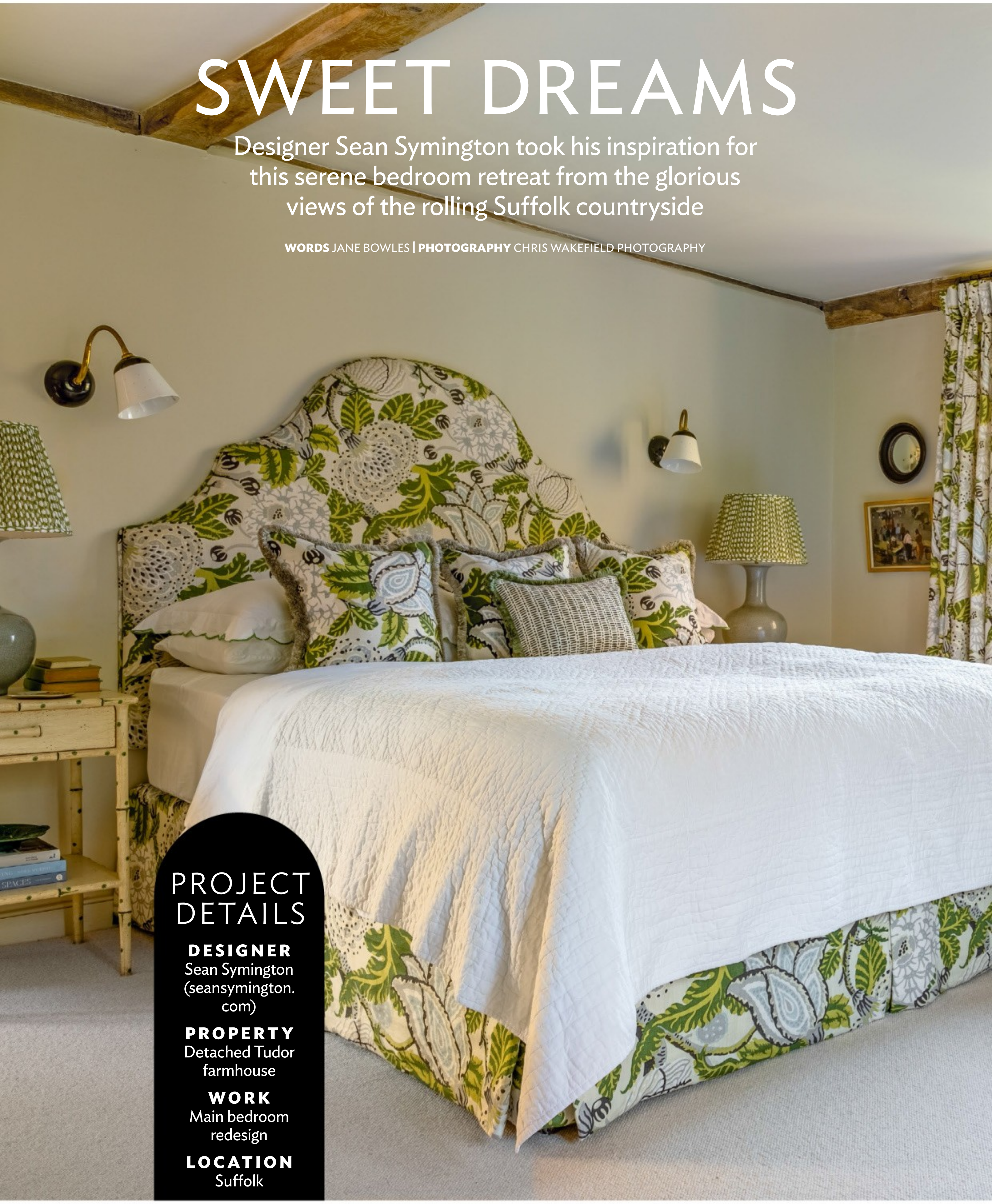
MAIN BEDROOM
'We dressed the windows in pretty pink linen and added interest behind the bed with some simple wall panelling,' says Jane. Antoinette bed in natural linen, Loaf. Walls in Ammonite, Farrow & Ball. Long bed cushion in Ticking fabric in Olive, Annie Sloan. Curtains in Bianco Old Rosa, Ada & Ina. Isabella table lamp, Anboise

with the outside and bringing as much light into the cottage was a priority,' says Jane, 'and this was achieved by fitting glazed internal and external doors, large picture windows and roof lights wherever we could. Finally, Johnny landscaped the garden, adding a patio for seating and alfresco dining area and once that was done, we had a real sense of completion – the garden was the missing piece.'

The biggest challenge the couple faced was reconfiguring the downstairs rooms to create more flow, while keeping the changes seamless so it felt like the house had always been this way. 'This involved a lot of expensive structural work, and although I was advised by my builders that there were cheaper layout options, we knew our plan would make such a difference to the feel of the house, and that we'd regret cutting corners further down the line,' she says. 'The extra building costs meant we had to rethink other areas, like cutting back on the cost of the new kitchen, but these felt like worthwhile compromises.'

Now the cottage is finished, the new layout downstairs has changed how the couple and their two sons Rufus, six, and Gabriel, two, use the space. 'We feel completely connected, even if we are in separate areas doing different things. The renovation has allowed me to hone my skills as an interior designer and also inspired me to start my own business, Salt Haven,' Jane explains. 'When working with clients I believe I've done my job well if I create spaces they never want to leave. Our cottage is now so homely and welcoming, we find it hard to tear ourselves away.' ㉕

salthaven.co.uk; @salthaveninteriors



SWEET DREAMS

Designer Sean Symington took his inspiration for this serene bedroom retreat from the glorious views of the rolling Suffolk countryside

WORDS JANE BOWLES | **PHOTOGRAPHY** CHRIS WAKEFIELD PHOTOGRAPHY

PROJECT DETAILS

DESIGNER
Sean Symington (seansymington.com)

PROPERTY
Detached Tudor farmhouse

WORK
Main bedroom redesign

LOCATION
Suffolk

‘Our clients asked us to create a bedroom retreat as their personal sanctuary within this country farmhouse,’ says designer Sean Symington. ‘The brief was to design a scheme that would balance tradition with modern comfort.’

1 CURATE A RESTFUL MOOD

‘The clients wanted a space that would maintain the historic Tudor character with its exposed beams while also feeling restful; the perfect place to unwind,’ says Sean. ‘We felt it was important to choose calming designs and colours that would create a sense of tranquillity and peace. Our starting point for the scheme was the botanical print: with its soft colours and texture, we knew it would be instantly relaxing.’

2 GO GREEN

‘The intentional use of various greens throughout the space reflects the Suffolk country views, bringing a breath of freshness into the interior and creating a visual connection to the landscape outside,’ says Sean. ‘These tones work with the natural light that changes throughout the day, creating different moods – from bright and refreshing in the morning to cosy and intimate in the evening.’

3 BRINGING THE OUTSIDE IN

‘A country retreat should offer visual respite from the constant stimulation of city life,’ says Sean. ‘The floral patterns aren’t overly fussy or traditional, but feature botanical motifs that feel fresh and natural. These are balanced with understated geometric patterns, giving the scheme structure and contemporary appeal.’

4 A SENSE OF SCALE

‘The combination of patterns creates visual interest without being too busy,’ says Sean. ‘We paid special attention to scale, varying the size of patterns from large, statement florals to smaller, more delicate geometrics that reveal themselves upon closer inspection. Layering the patterns creates depth, while the colour palette successfully unifies the different designs.

A PERFECT BLEND

‘The contrast between period and modern styles prevents the space from feeling like a period recreation and makes it feel lived-in and authentic,’ says Sean.
Walls in Whiting, Edward Bulmer Natural Paint. **Headboard, valance and cushions** made up in Mitford fabric, Thibaut. **Chaise** upholstered in Balcony Stripe fabric, Nicky Haslam. Try the Westbourne **table lamps** in Olive Green, Vaughan. Green Wicker **lampshades**, Fermoie. Find a similar antique **chaise** (just seen) at 1stDibs

MELLOW. *magic*

HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY Grade II-listed former farm building

ROOMS Kitchen-diner/living area, utility area, three bedrooms, three bathrooms

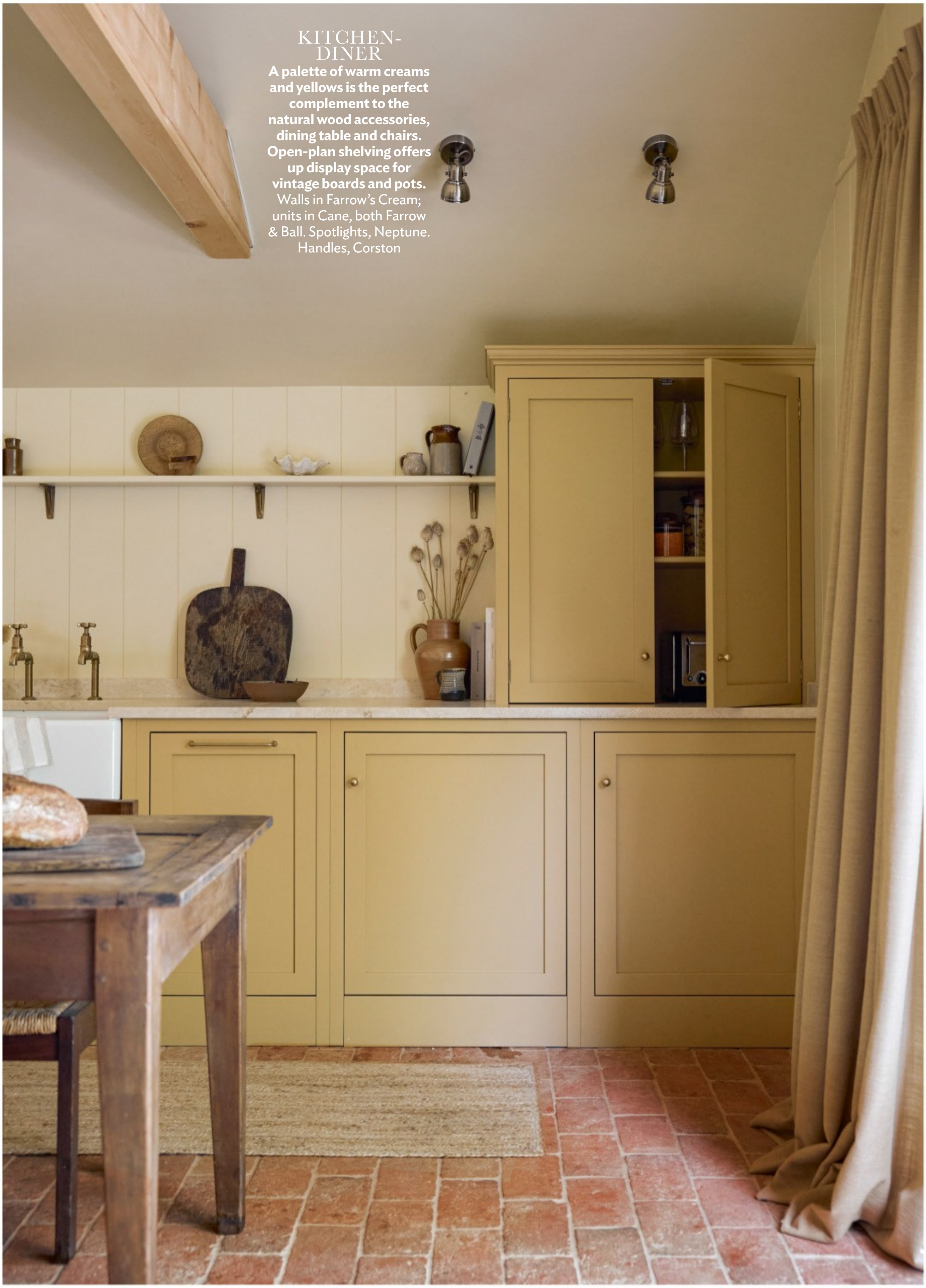
LOCATION Suffolk

A cider barn has been lovingly transformed into a welcoming home and farmstead hotel with natural textures and a soothing palette of yellows and warm neutrals

WORDS SARA EMSLIE | **PHOTOGRAPHY** ADAM CARTER

KITCHEN-DINER

This space has a lovely relaxed, utilitarian feel with Shaker-style units and a simple aesthetic. Kitchen, designed and made by Apron. Stone worktops, Marchetti Stone. Dining table, Vinterior. Vintage chairs, Deorling Antiques



KITCHEN-DINER

A palette of warm creams and yellows is the perfect complement to the natural wood accessories, dining table and chairs. Open-plan shelving offers up display space for vintage boards and pots. Walls in Farrow's Cream; units in Cane, both Farrow & Ball. Spotlights, Neptune. Handles, Corston

UTILITY AREA

A fresh apple green colour provides a visual contrast to the yellow and terracotta tones and beautifully zones the boot and coat area close to the entrance. Similar baskets, Neptune

The plan for Gem Boner, her partner Thom Scherdel and their two children Aries and Deia, was quite simple – they wanted to move out of east London and settle somewhere in the bucolic English countryside. But exactly where, they had no idea. 'We'd dreamed of setting up a business for a while but we didn't know exactly what we wanted or where to do it, so one weekend we drew a two-hours' circle around London and started to look for places with lots of land,' Gem explains. The lure of vast swathes of idyllic countryside and proximity to beautiful beaches made Suffolk stand out as the number-one choice. With location sorted, the rest was straightforward. 'We fell in love with Paradise Farm the moment we drove through the gates,' says Gem. 'There was a magical feeling and even though it was pouring down with rain, we could feel this place had so much potential. When we explored the land, the place just got better and better – there are so many hidden gems that really captured our hearts.'

The property and surrounding land was once a working farm. Nowadays, the main farmhouse and its numerous outbuildings, all of which are Grade II-listed and date back to the 16th century, are in the process of being painstakingly restored and renovated by Gem and Thom. As well as creating a home for themselves, they are building a thriving business offering accommodation, event spaces and retreats to like-minded urban souls who crave a slice of country life.

'The first part of this project took six months – we basically stripped back the whole barn to its bare bones, knocked all the walls down and started with a clean slate. This was quite daunting but the configuration just wouldn't have worked,' explains Gem

‘TERRACOTTA TILES ARE USED THROUGHOUT – THEY ARE BEAUTIFULLY TACTILE TO WALK UPON AND ADD A RICH SOPHISTICATION’

LIVING AREA

A collection of pottery jugs and curios adds to the rustic vibe, and tactile woven coir rugs add warmth on top of the natural terracotta floor. Bespoke sofa, Stringer Brothers; covered in Skinny Stripe fabric, Colours of Arley. Ceramics, Rialto and Freya Bramble-Carter. Painting by Lee Johnson Studio

LIVE BEAUTIFUL

EN SUITE
A chequerboard tile pattern adds charm. Terracotta floor tiles; shower tiles Maroc in Khaki & Beige, all Ca' Pietra. Sanitaryware, fixtures and fittings, all BC Designs

BEDROOM
Twin beds are dressed identically and create a smart, uniform feel. Wall panelling in Olive, Farrow & Ball. Beds, Floks. Bedding, Cultiver. Bespoke headboards, Stringer Brothers; covered in striped fabric, Colours of Arley

BEDROOM
Layers of coordinating colours lend depth and warmth. Bespoke headboard, Stringer Brothers; covered in striped fabric, A Rum Fellow. Wall-mounted task light, Pooky

of the stunning space that the pair have appropriately named The Cider Store. 'We have discovered many stories about the property's past and one day we found a beautiful photo in our letter box. There was no note, so to this day we don't know who posted it, but it was a picture of a horse pulling a cider press wheel around in the front garden. So we did a bit of asking around and discovered our home had once been a cider factory.' To the couple's delight, the original horse-drawn stone cider wheel was also unearthed. 'It was buried in the garden and has been repurposed into the perfect base for the fire pit. It felt very ceremonious when we laid that,' Gem smiles.

Inside, the interior also pays homage to its humble beginnings with a colour scheme of mellow yellow tones, buttery neutrals, earthy terracotta and warm copper sitting alongside a soft apple green – visual echoes of the colours of the orchards around harvest times. 'We wanted something that was modern but felt like it had a nod to the old,' says Gem. 'I worked with the amazing interior designer Emma Shone-Sanders, founder of Design & That Studio. We met years ago and I always had her in mind if I ever took on a big project like this.'

The true test of success in any interior project is how it feels as a space in which to live. 'The kitchen is the central hub. Thom is an amazing cook and spends hours in there so it's perfect as we can still see him and enjoy his company while he is cooking,' explains Gem. 'And the room that was designed with me in mind was the bathroom. This has a big roll-top bath and the lighting is divine; it evokes candlelight, even without candles. If I ever get the chance with two kids, I'll be in there with a glass of wine and a book!'

To stay at the farm, see restaries.com; @restaries

no. 24

CREATIVE process

When Lucy Wiltsher bought her first home, she rediscovered her artistic side as she set about updating each of the rooms

WORDS JANE CRITTENDEN | **PHOTOGRAPHY** JAMES FRENCH
STYLING MARISHA TAYLOR AND LUCY WILTSHER

DINING ROOM
Lucy and her husband built a wall of joinery using Ikea furniture. 'A break in the shelves softens the look and a tongue and groove panel adds depth and interest,' she says.
Malm chest of six drawers; Lack shelf, all Ikea. Try tongue-and-groove wood panel, The Panel Company. The Iris dining chair, The Cotswold Company, is similar

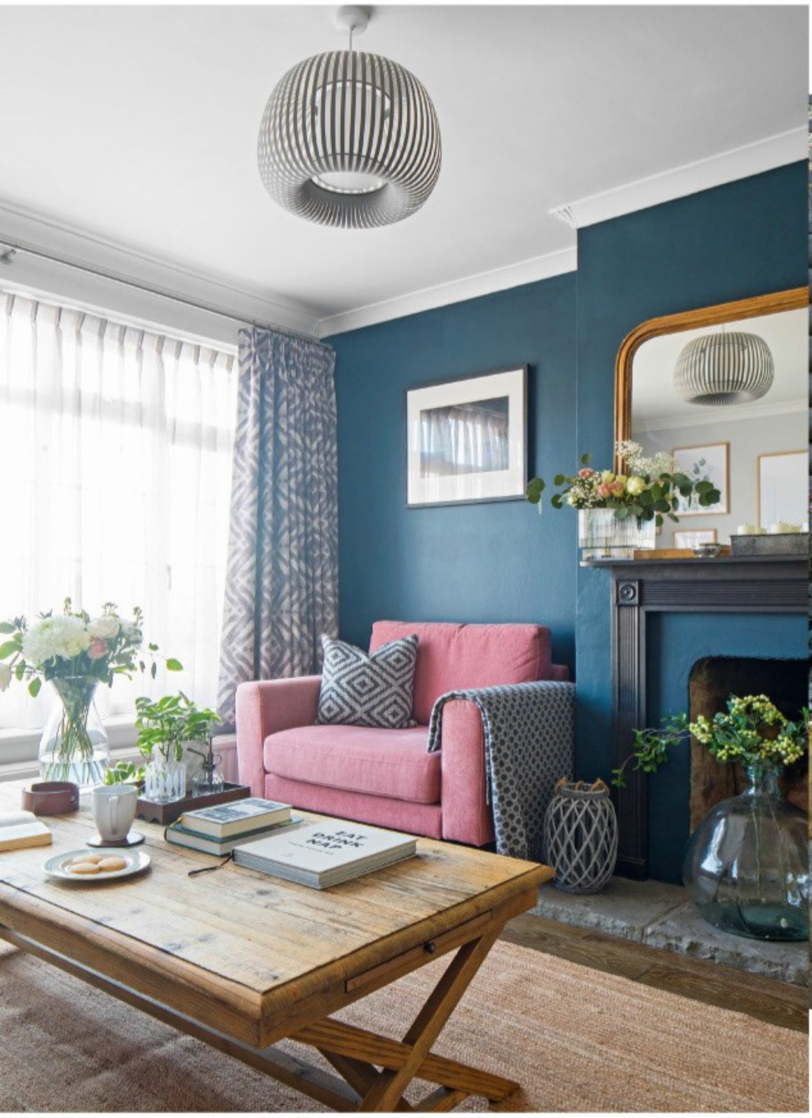
DINING ROOM
Redecorating this space which lacked light in a creamy tone with a yellow base infused the cool room with warmth.
Walls in White 03, Lick. Dining table, Ardingly Antiques Fair. Lars rug in Light Grey, Benuta, is a good alternative. Harmony Ribbon ceiling light, John Lewis

When Lucy Wiltsher, a content creator and her husband bought their first home together, Lucy revived a creative side she'd not tapped into since she was young. 'My mum had her own interiors business so I grew up surrounded by creativity but that fell away as I got older,' she explains. 'I worked in finance in the fashion industry and in many ways that kept my creative energy flowing. But it wasn't until we moved out of rented accommodation that I discovered how much I really love interiors.'

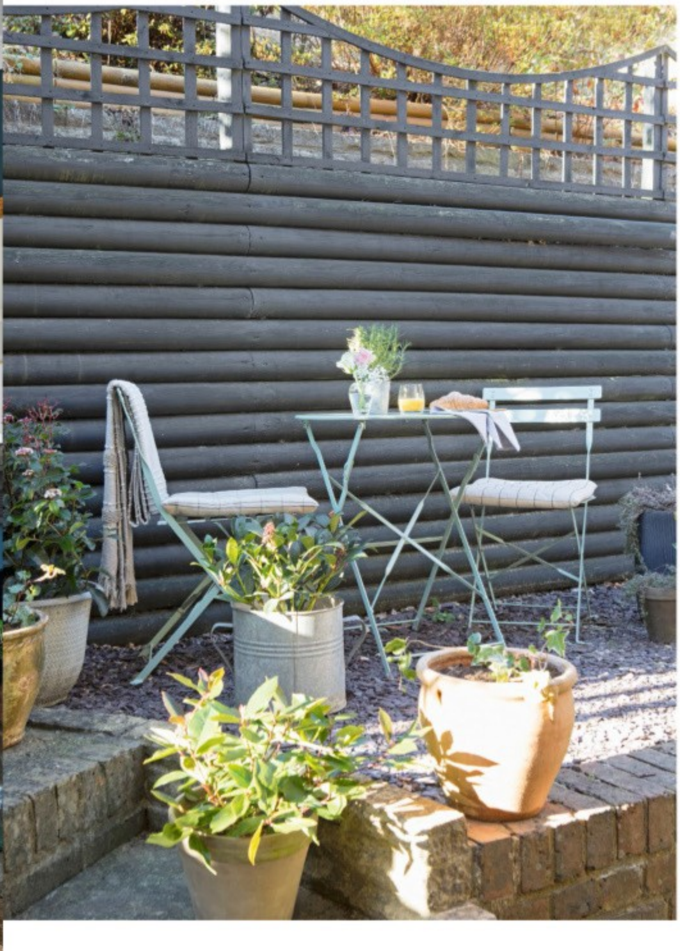
The couple's three-bedroom semi-detached house in Surrey had been well kept and had all the space they needed in the short term. It was also the first property they viewed. 'We fell in love with the amazing views from the house and at the top of the steep garden,' says Lucy. 'It was exactly what we were after and perfectly fine to live in while we put our energy into improving the look and functionality.'

The kitchen and bathroom soon showed signs of wear and tear having been patched up before it went on the market. Lucy painted the kitchen cupboards and splashback to keep them going and prioritised the bathroom project first. A key change came when they knocked the wall down separating the toilet. 'A bathroom company helped with the layout and we're delighted with the results – now I really enjoy my evening bath,' says Lucy. 'I chose olive green fittings inspired by local walks and the woodlands behind us.'

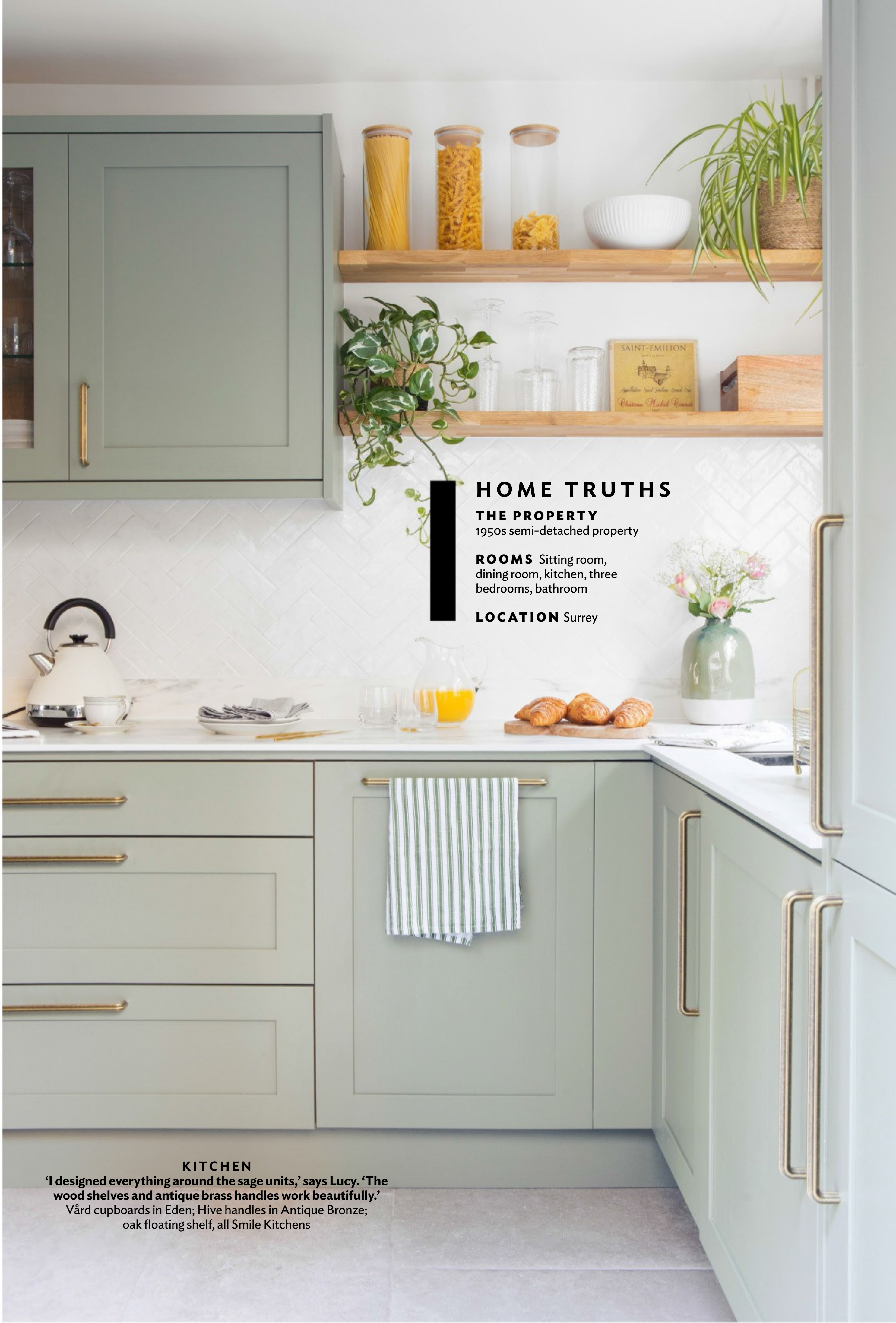
Lucy went on to paint the wall panelling green in the nursery and chose a sage-coloured kitchen. 'I



SITTING ROOM
'I was inspired by a friend's dark blue room to go for a dramatic colour here, but in the end I only painted one wall in case it looked too much,' says Lucy.
Walls in Hague Blue, Farrow & Ball. Abigail Ahern Harkness Vapour curtains, Hillarys



GARDEN
As in the sitting room, Lucy has been bold with colour outside, choosing a dark tone for the fence.
The Camden garden bistro table and chairs set from John Lewis is a good alternative to this



HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY
1950s semi-detached property

ROOMS Sitting room, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom

LOCATION Surrey

KITCHEN
'I designed everything around the sage units,' says Lucy. 'The wood shelves and antique brass handles work beautifully.'
Vård cupboards in Eden; Hive handles in Antique Bronze; oak floating shelf, all Smile Kitchens

MAIN BEDROOM

'There are no busy colours or patterns in our room – calm neutrals is how we like it,' says Lucy. Coco bed in natural cotton linen, Loaf. Ezra embroidered cushion, Furn. Find a botanical print at Desenio

> 'GREEN IS VERSATILE BECAUSE ITS YELLOW OR BLUE UNDERTONES MEAN THERE'S A SHADE THAT SUITS EVERY SETTING'

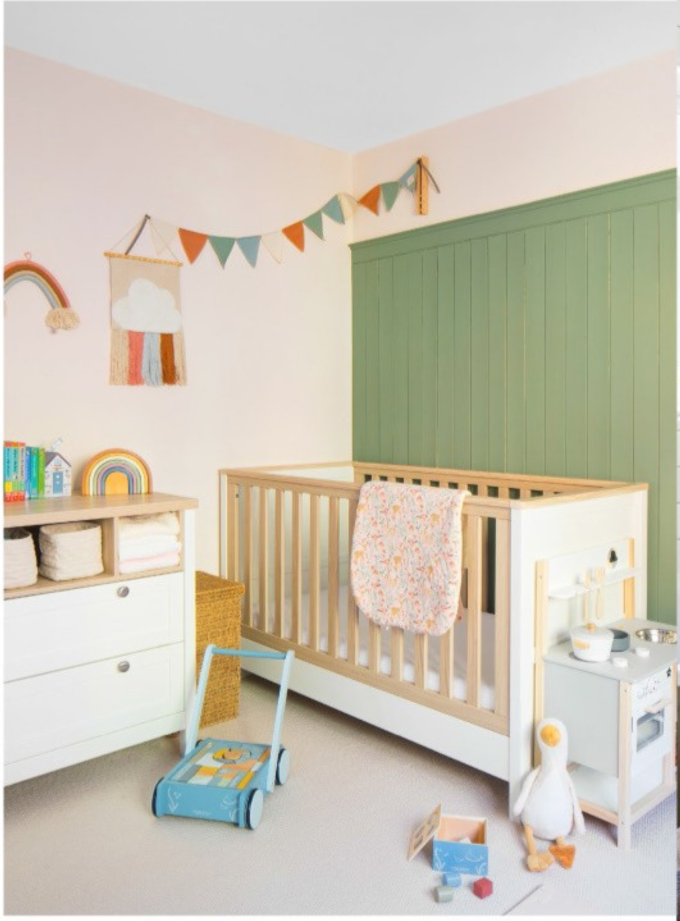
hadn't realised green had become my favourite colour until my husband pointed it out to me! I've come to think of green as a neutral colour as you can always find a shade to suit a space.'

With the new bathroom complete, relocating the boiler from the kitchen to the attic became a small change with a big impact. 'We no longer had an airing cupboard in the guest bedroom so we gained wardrobe space,' Lucy explains. 'We also improved space in the kitchen, which paved the way for a new layout when we gutted the room.'

Lucy found a kitchen company online and chose Shaker-style units. The finished project spurred her on to relook at the adjoining dining room, which didn't seem to be working. They'd previously painted the walls pale grey to follow through from the open-plan sitting room. 'The dining room felt cold and as I learnt more about paint colours, I picked a white with a warm yellow undertone instead,' she says. 'It's lovely as light bounces around the room.'

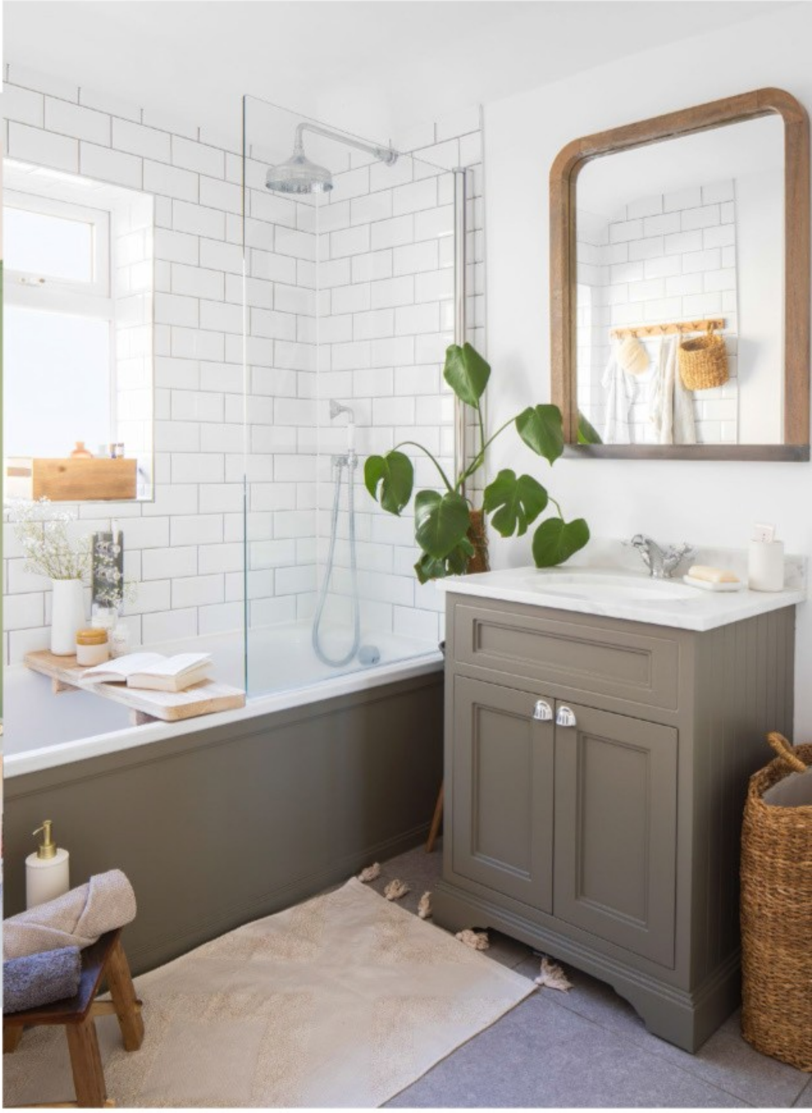
Elsewhere, although Lucy still liked the white-washed rustic dining table in here, she was unsure if she'd made a mistake buying neutral chairs. A shelf hack brought the tricky room together. 'We got rid of our freestanding shelves and my husband and I built a wall of joinery, which instantly streamlined the room,' she says. 'I finally fell in love with the space and the chairs all over again. Our whole project has been about making rooms beautiful and functional – and I've loved rediscovering my creative side.' ㉕

@lucys_hillside_house



NURSERY

'I wanted to make a focal feature of the green wall panel so I bought the longest planks I could find to make it,' says Lucy. Try full-height V-groove panelling, Cut My; in Green 02, Lick. Westport cot bed and dresser, Silver Cross, is similar



BATHROOM

'A bathroom firm showed us a layout that fitted in a wider bath to make showering more comfortable,' says Lucy. Kent bath, Victorian Plumbing, is a similar design. Gloss white bevelled metro tiles, London Tile

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The great OUTDOORS

Toni and Graeme Twidale's modernist new build was designed to celebrate their plot's trees and the best of indoor-outdoor living

WORDS GRAHAM WOOD | **PHOTOGRAPHY** WARREN HEATH/BUREAUX
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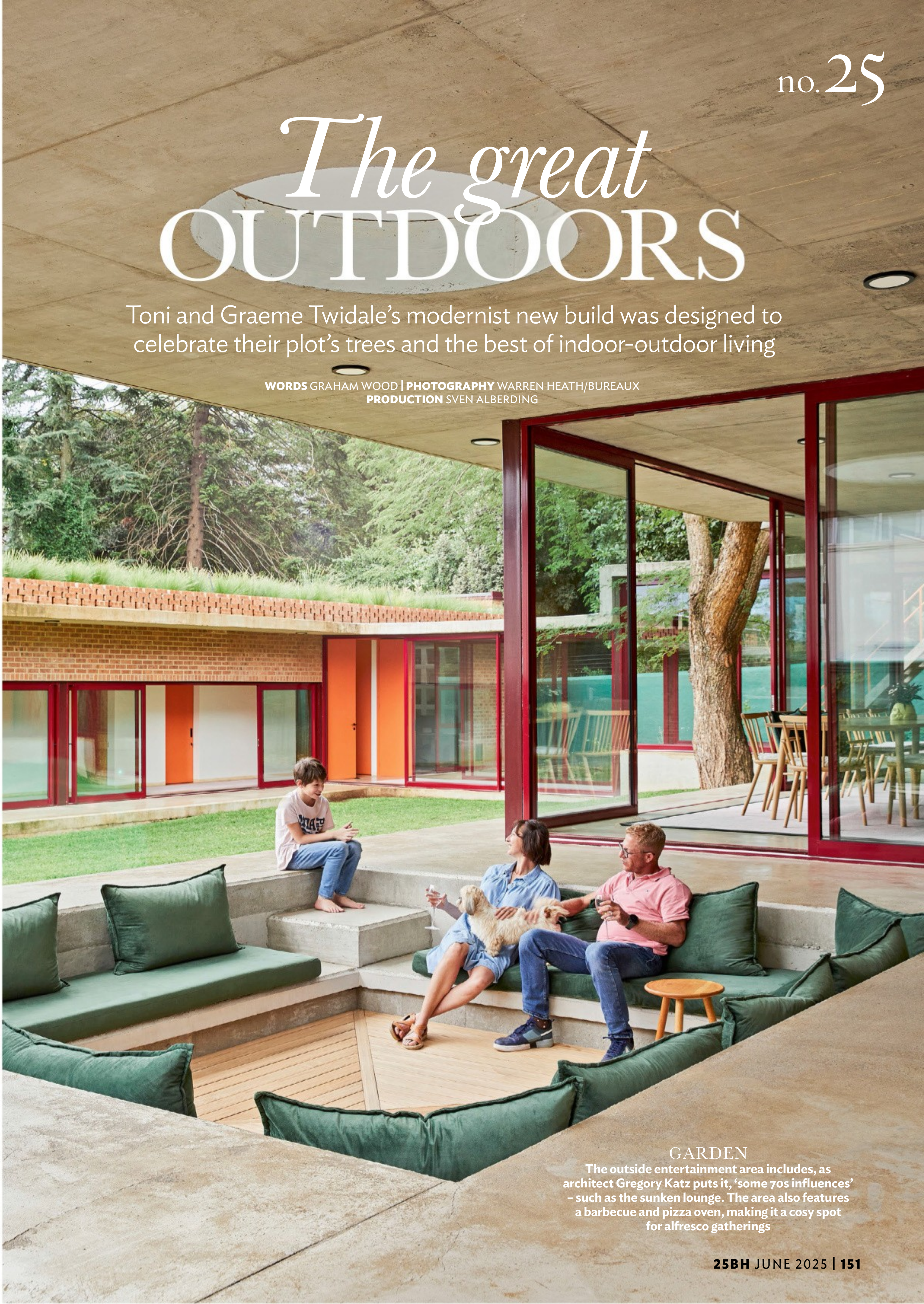
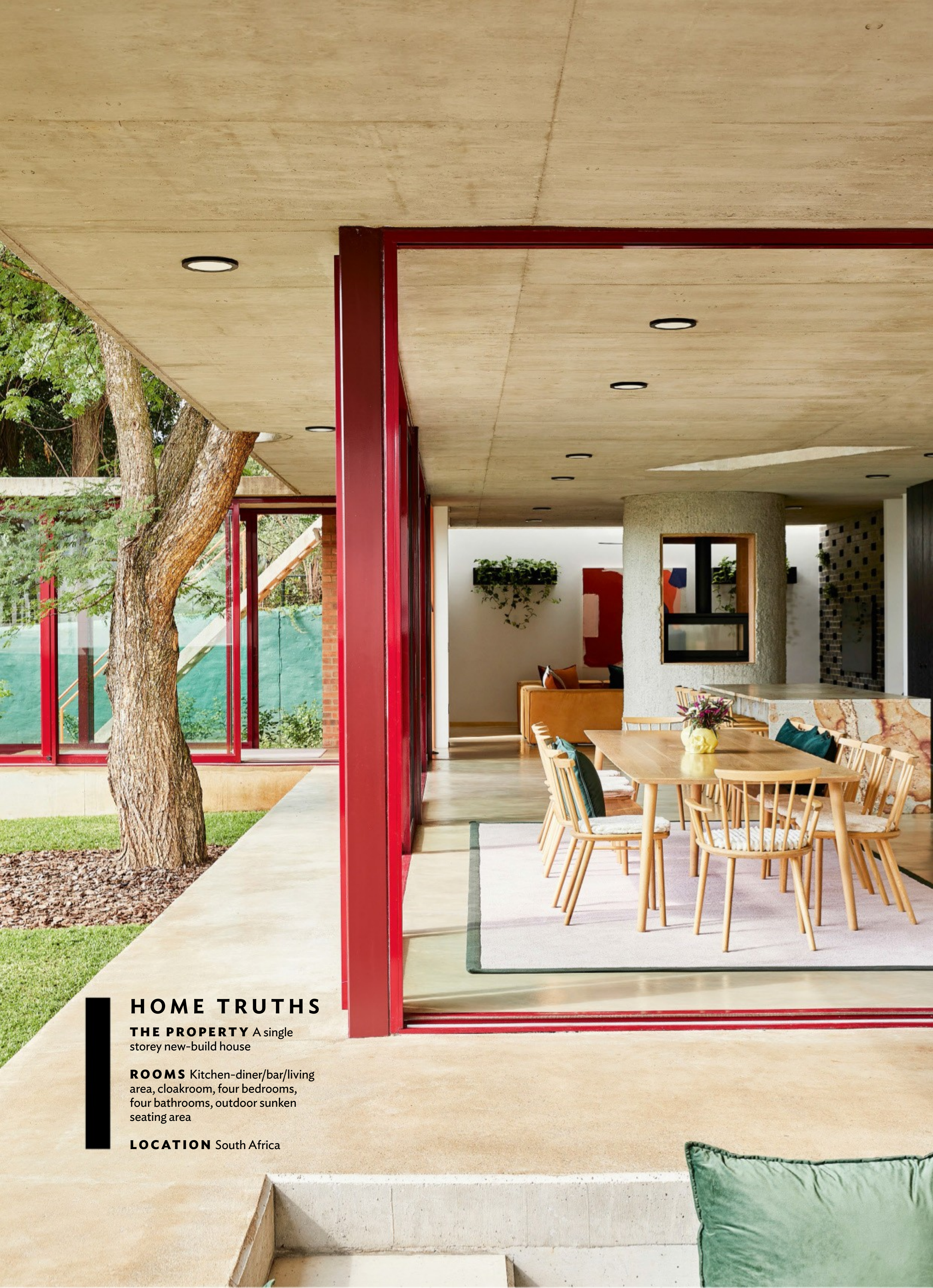


GARDEN
The outside entertainment area includes, as architect Gregory Katz puts it, 'some 70s influences' – such as the sunken lounge. The area also features a barbecue and pizza oven, making it a cosy spot for alfresco gatherings

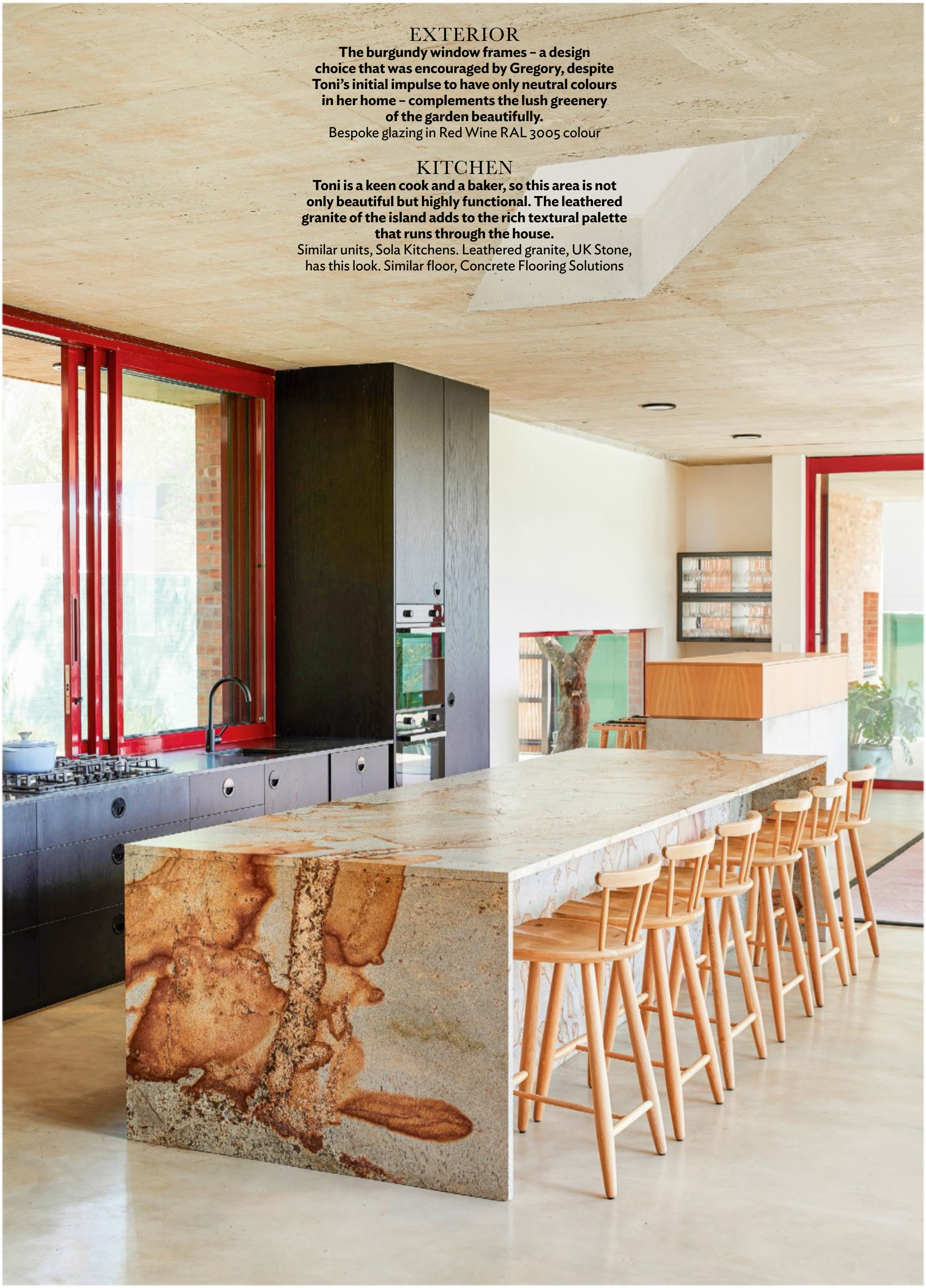


HOME TRUTHS

THE PROPERTY A single storey new-build house

ROOMS Kitchen-diner/bar/living area, cloakroom, four bedrooms, four bathrooms, outdoor sunken seating area

LOCATION South Africa



EXTERIOR

The burgundy window frames – a design choice that was encouraged by Gregory, despite Toni's initial impulse to have only neutral colours in her home – complements the lush greenery of the garden beautifully.

Bespoke glazing in Red Wine RAL 3005 colour

KITCHEN

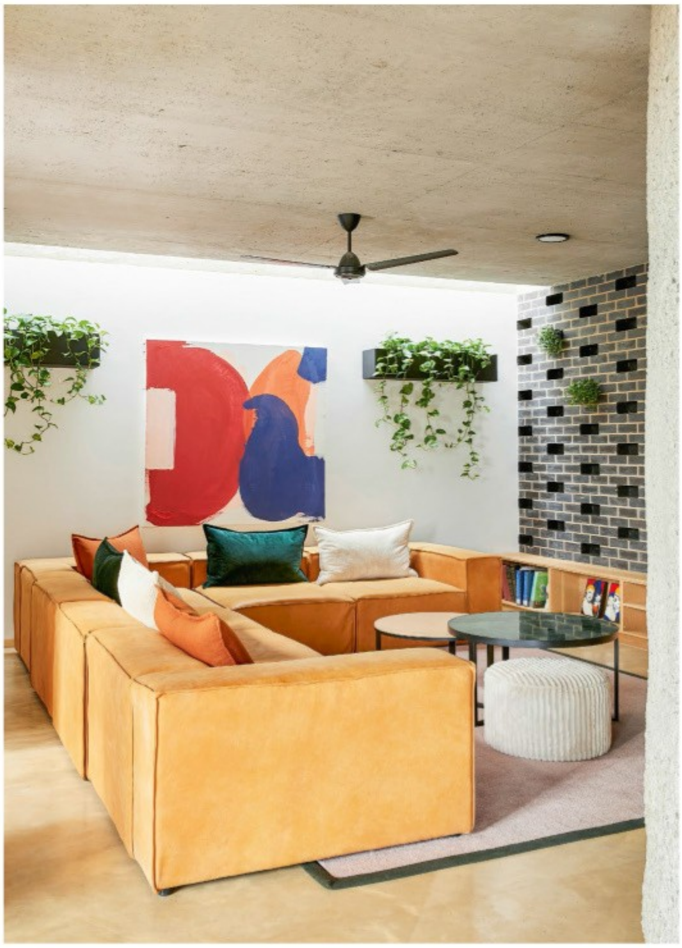
Toni is a keen cook and a baker, so this area is not only beautiful but highly functional. The leathered granite of the island adds to the rich textural palette that runs through the house.

Similar units, Sola Kitchens. Leathered granite, UK Stone, has this look. Similar floor, Concrete Flooring Solutions

After several years of searching unsuccessfully for a new house, Johannesburg-based couple Toni and Graeme Twidale and their son Jamie, 12, eventually found a plot of land freed up by a subdivision and filled with beautiful, established, indigenous trees. At that moment Toni says she realised that what she wanted, more than a house, was to live among the trees. 'I wanted to see green all the time,' she says. 'I wanted the outside in.'

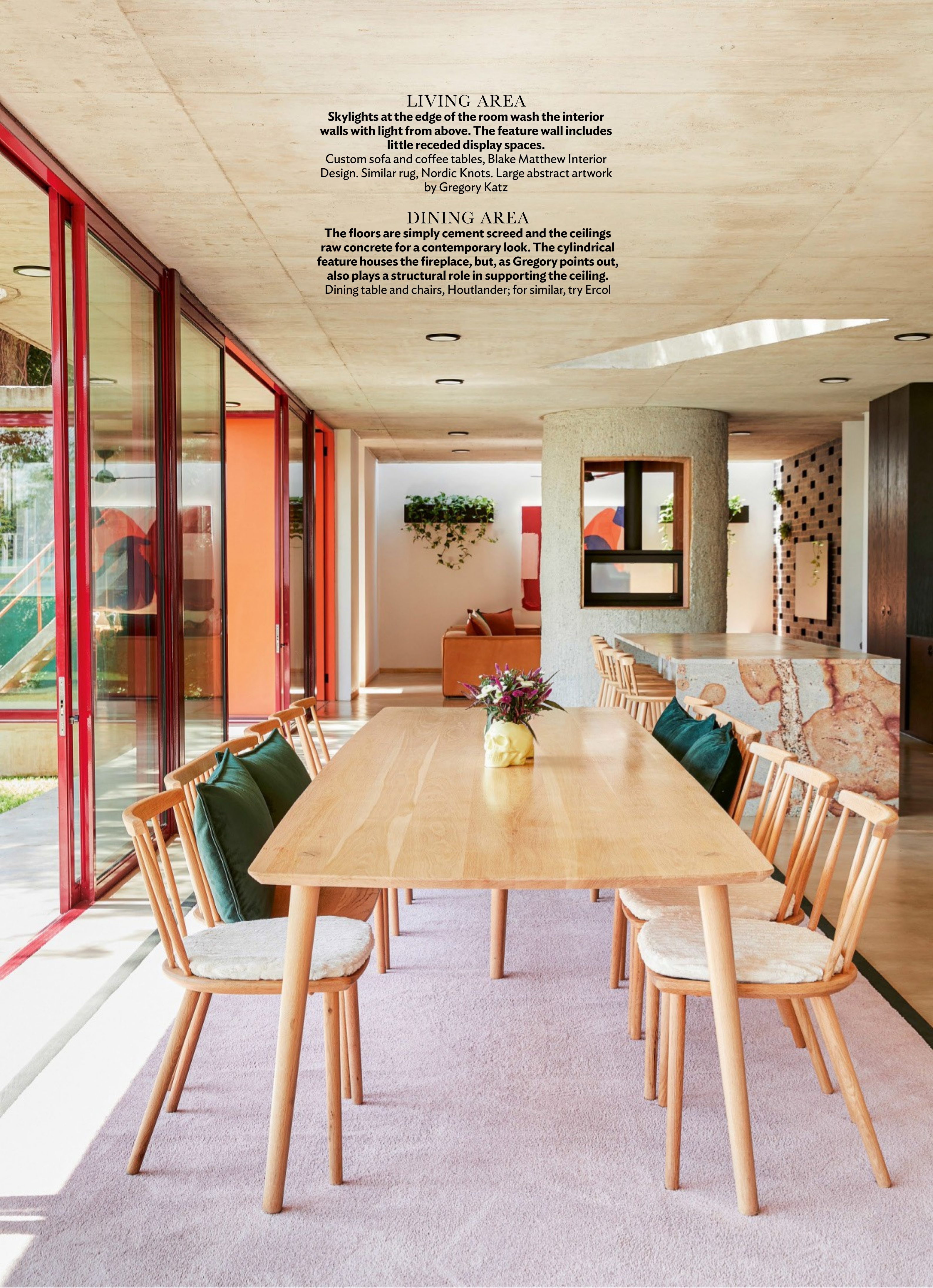
So they decided to build a house that would be all about those trees. The couple enlisted the help of local architect Gregory Katz, well-known for his creative, often unconventional, approach. His brief was a bit of a 'mathematical puzzle', he says: how to fit the dimensions of a house between the trees? In the end, he devised an arrangement by which he slipped two long, slim 'bars' between them, with alternating strips of open space for the driveway and entrance, central courtyard and swimming pool. The two wings are connected by what Gregory calls an 'umbilical cord': a glazed corridor that steps down slightly with the slope of the site.

The tree branches reach over a flat concrete roof, planted with grass, essentially lifting what would have been on the ground up a level and adding to the sense of greenery. 'When you drive in, you see the grass on the roof and it looks like the house is underground,' says Toni. Floor-to-ceiling sliding glass lets the garden in and transforms the house into something more like an outdoor pavilion. At points, the trees are so close they seem as if they're inside; sections of the eaves had to be cast with cutouts through which branches could grow. Nevertheless, Gregory thinks of the design as following a fairly typical double-storey model – just flipped on its side. All rooms have lovely natural light, although the deep eaves keep out direct sun in summer and shield the windows from seasonal thundershowers. And every single room opens out onto the garden.



While the house's configuration might have been dictated by necessity, Gregory found opportunities to exercise his creativity within its constraints. 'I think that restraint is actually a good design principle,' he says. 'You're not overconsuming; you're not overdoing things.' Instead, the restrictions compelled him to design every aspect 'with care and thought'. It's an approach that puts a different spin on the old modernist maxim that 'less is more'. Rather than leading down a path towards stark minimalism, in Gregory's hands it becomes a tactile, expressive approach, which proves that using less might yield a whole lot more than expected. Superficially, this house might look like a homage to mid-century modernism, but it is actually an original response to Johannesburg suburban life. And, like all the best modernist designs, deceptively simple-looking. ㉕

gregorykatz.co.za

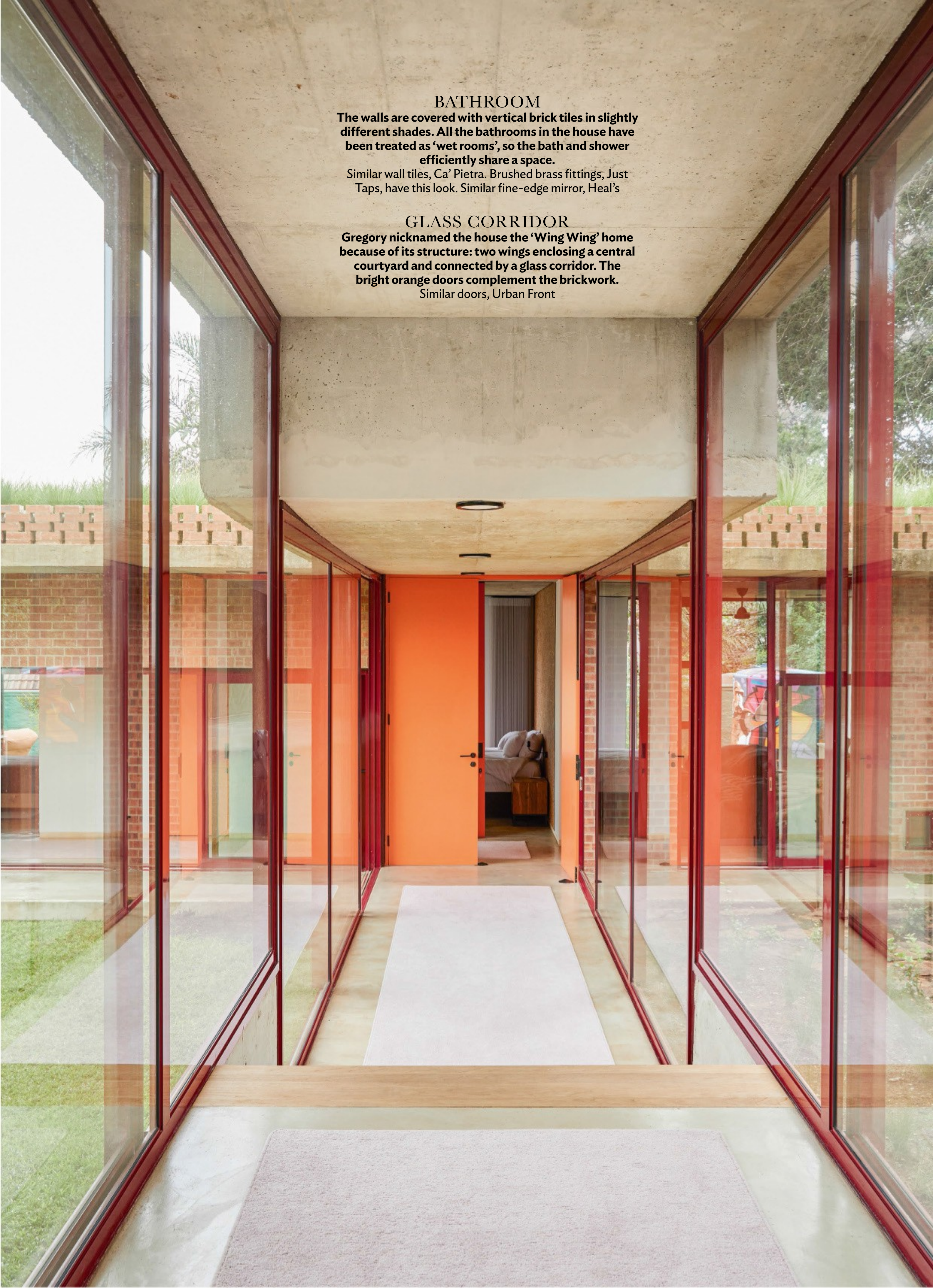


LIVING AREA

Skylights at the edge of the room wash the interior walls with light from above. The feature wall includes little receded display spaces.
Custom sofa and coffee tables, Blake Matthew Interior Design. Similar rug, Nordic Knots. Large abstract artwork by Gregory Katz

DINING AREA

The floors are simply cement screed and the ceilings raw concrete for a contemporary look. The cylindrical feature houses the fireplace, but, as Gregory points out, also plays a structural role in supporting the ceiling.
Dining table and chairs, Houtlander; for similar, try Ercol

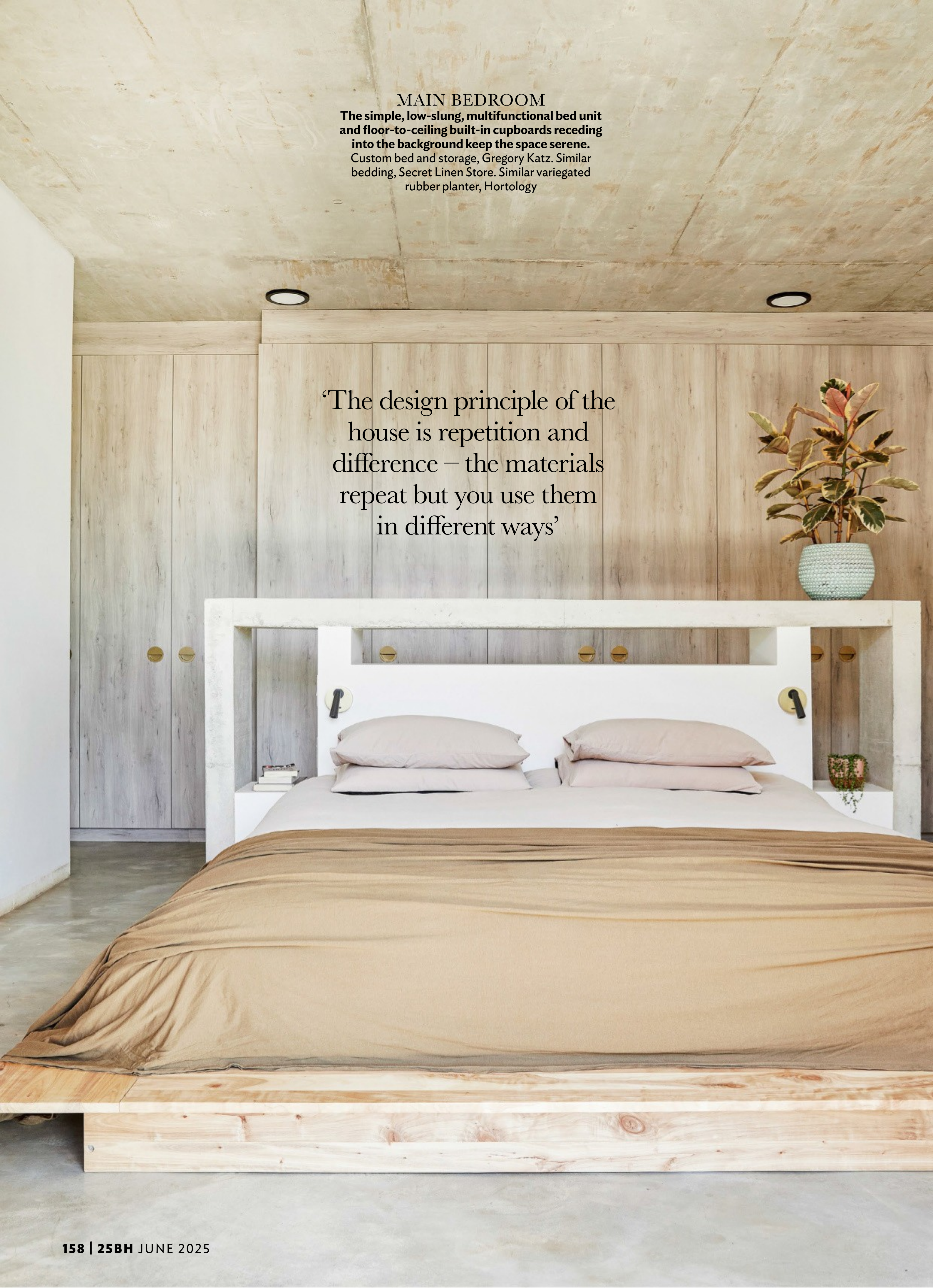


BATHROOM

The walls are covered with vertical brick tiles in slightly different shades. All the bathrooms in the house have been treated as 'wet rooms', so the bath and shower efficiently share a space.
Similar wall tiles, Ca' Pietra. Brushed brass fittings, Just Taps, have this look. Similar fine-edge mirror, Heal's

GLASS CORRIDOR

Gregory nicknamed the house the 'Wing Wing' home because of its structure: two wings enclosing a central courtyard and connected by a glass corridor. The bright orange doors complement the brickwork.
Similar doors, Urban Front



MAIN BEDROOM

The simple, low-slung, multifunctional bed unit and floor-to-ceiling built-in cupboards receding into the background keep the space serene. Custom bed and storage, Gregory Katz. Similar bedding, Secret Linen Store. Similar variegated rubber planter, Hortology

> ‘The design principle of the house is repetition and difference – the materials repeat but you use them in different ways’

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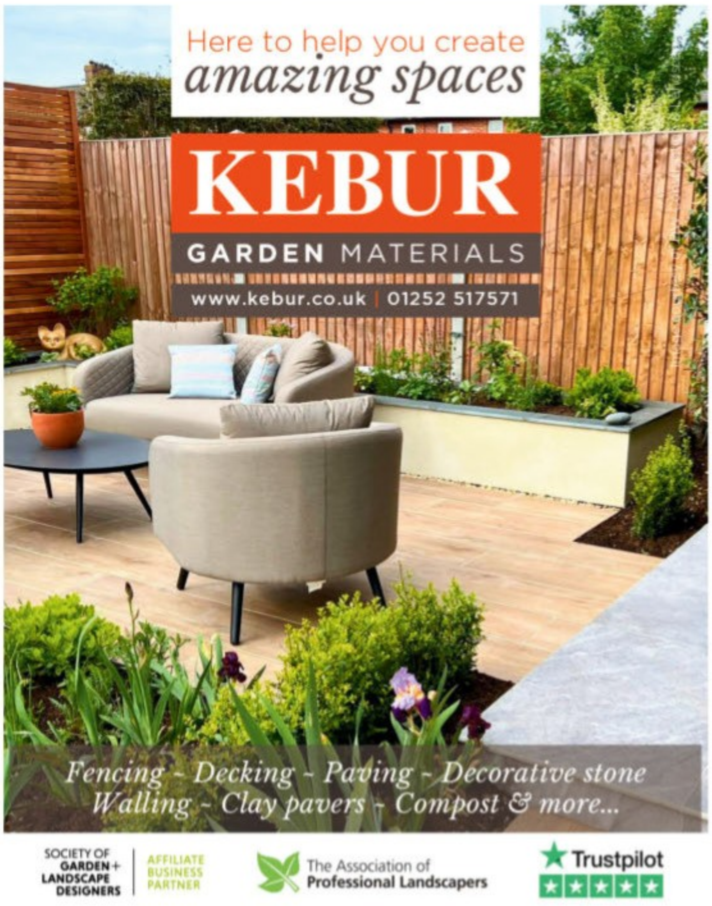
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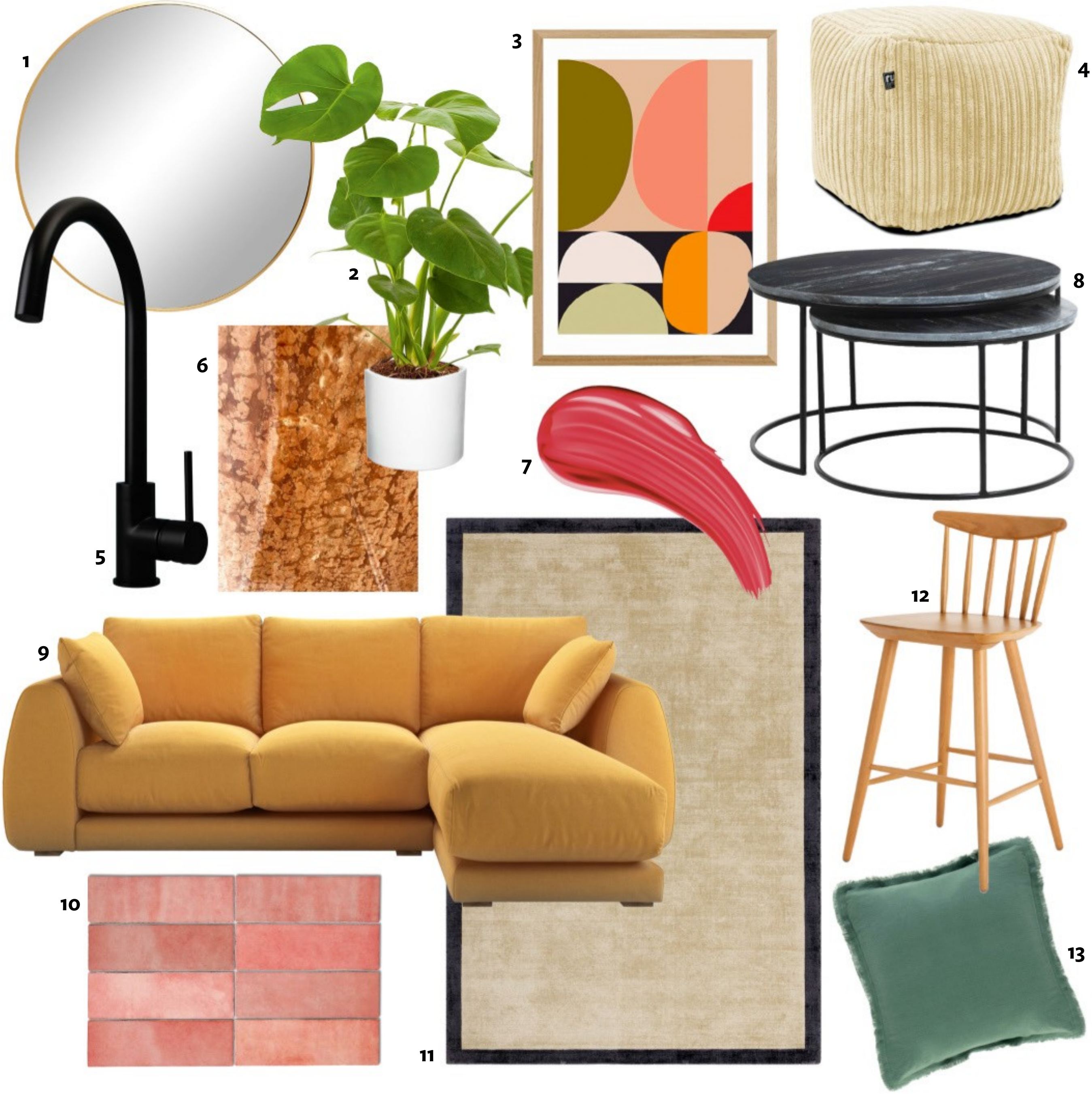

1 Large gold framed mirror, £96.95, Melody Maison **2** *Monstera Deliciosa* plant, from £14.99, Dobbies **3** Mid-century by Halves A3 abstract print in oak frame, £59, Cult Furniture **4** Cube beanbag in jumbo cord, £49.99, RU Comfy **5** Black Tinkisso kitchen tap, £146.99, Dowsing & Reynolds **6** Rosso Verona marble worktop, from £450m, Cullifords **7** Poppy exterior wood/metal eggshell paint, £34.95 for 1ltr, Victory Colours **8** Tustin nesting coffee tables, £580, Sweetpea & Willow **9** Carmel chaise sofa in Amber Smart Velvet, £3,470, Sofa.com **10** Marais Rose ceramic wall tiles, £48sq m, Porcelain Superstore **11** Blade border rug in Putty/Charcoal, from £329, Love-Rugs **12** Spindle beech bar stool, £299 for two, John Lewis **13** Raw-edge cushion in Green, £8, B&M

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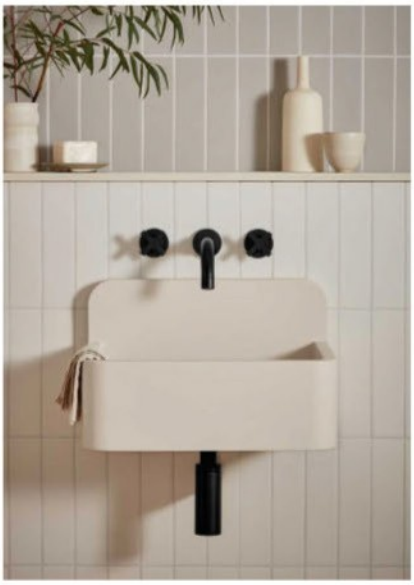

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